Greater Germany's Battle for Freedom

Volume 1

Greater Germany's Battle for Freedom

Der großdeutsche Freiheitskampf

Volume 1

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Forward

In Versailles, the western powers believed they had knocked Germany to the ground for all time. Through a cleverly designed system of artificially established states, they hoped to keep the Reich, made defenseless, laying in chains and divided by the squabble of parties, for all time in dependency of their plutocratic guardianship. They were ready at any time, with the help of their footmen in the outside world, to cut it off and take way its life breath, in the event it should ever again dare to win a place in the sun.

But fate wanted it differently. It gave the German folk a leader who, filled with tremendous faith in eternal Germany, gained the leadership of this Reich despite all domestic political confusion and obstacles.

From the first day of his struggle for a greater and more beautiful Germany on, Adolf Hitler did not hide that he would not rest until the chains of Versailles and St. Germain had fallen, and a free German nation could again shape its fate itself, in order to fulfil its task before history in this and in the coming generations.

The Führer has pursued this his line with logical clarity and relentless consequence. When all power had been put into his hand by the German folk, he again and again, just like in the time of the struggle for power, rose his voice in order to resist the insanity, which, closed to all human and political insight, sought to eternalize the condition, created after the war and long since untenable, of an artificial new order of Europe. He warned with all urgency against the consequences of a development that invariably had to set in, if one wanted to keep a folk of the size, inner worth and tradition of the German one in the role of an insignificant petty state. With the most generous renunciations on the one hand, he sought on the other to ensure Germany's life necessities.

He preached to deaf ears. The western powers multiplied the hatred against the striving National Socialist Reich with which they had persecuted the prostrate Germany. Far away from offering on their part a contribution to Europe's pacification, they insisted on their appearance and renounced the application of new measures of force against the new Reich only because, in total mistaking of the German conditions, they believed in only a short duration of the National Socialist regime.

The Führer, however, acted. While he continued his efforts for a peaceful solution of the looming problems, he made all arrangements in order to protect the Reich against coming rapes.

In an inconceivably short time, he transformed Germany's countenance. Before the faith and the will of his genius, any thought of capitulation became an empty phantom. He crossed the word "impossible" out of the German vocabulary. And piece by piece, he smashed the chains of Versailles.

He turned his back on the League of Nations, which, weak and an obedient tool of the western powers, vilely broke its promise to the Reich.

He brought the German Saar home into the Reich.

He established German military freedom and military sovereignty through the occupation of the Rhineland and the reintroduction of universal compulsory military service.

He created a German folk army such as the world had not yet seen. He established bonds of friendship with powerful state structures.

And when the Führer on March 25, 1938 could report before history at the Heldenplatz in Vienna the joining of his homeland into the German Reich, the first attempt by its enemies to preserve threatening bastions in Germany's rear were ignominiously ruined.

It was only natural that all gazes and expectations now turned to a problem which, quite in the spirit of the initiators of Versailles, began to become an ever more obvious threat to Germany and hence to world peace. Czechoslovakia was a state by France's grace and had been established in disregard for all historical and folkish principles. It was supposed to be a guarantee of France's hegemony and it was quite openly praised by hostile chauvinists as an arms arsenal for the purpose of Germany's suppression. Thus the Führer struck the western powers at their most sensitive spot, when, in autumn 1938, he freed the Sudeten-Germans from the boundless terror by the Czech Benesch group. Already back then, it seemed as if we stood at just before the outbreak of a far-ranging conflict. On September 26th, the Führer spoke one more time in the Berlin Sportpalast in order to demonstrate his will's resoluteness before the whole world, and simultaneously make clear to England and France the insanity of their plan, if they sought to maintain the bankrupt system of an encirclement of Germany: "And the world can take note of one thing here: In 4 ½ years of war and in the long years of my political life, one has never been able to accuse me of one thing: I have never yet been cowardly! I now go at the front of my folk as its first soldier, and behind me - the world may know this - marches now a folk, and indeed a different one than of the year 1918!"

The western democracies retreated in the face of this determination and it came to the Munich Agreements. So the Führer could, on October 3, 1928, welcome the

Egerländer as new citizens of the German Reich. His words: "Over this German, Greater German Reich lies protecting the German shield and shielding the German sword!" represented, in union with the meanwhile established, gigantic defensive belt of the West Wall, an unmistakable warning to the western powers, and so they once more recoiled from the long-planned, most extreme step, when the Czechoslovakian state could not withstand this shock to its foundations; when it, incited by them, but abandoned at the decisive moment, collapsed; when Slovakia gained its independence and put itself under the Reich's protection, and the Czech State President Hacha asked the Führer for his protection of the Czech folk. With the entry of German troops into Bohemia and Moravia, the Führer had once more "now finally eliminated a threat to peace and created the prerequisites for the necessary new ordering in this living space." The western powers, however, saw another base for the encirclement policy vanish. One again, the Führer, in his decree of March 16, 1938 about the Protectorate Bohemia and Moravia, clearly presented the core point of the problem standing at debate: "The German Reich, however, cannot tolerate any ongoing disruptions in these regions so important for its own peace and security as well as for the common good and general peace. Sooner or later, it, as the through history and geographic location most strongly interested and injured power, would have to bear the most severe consequences. It hence corresponds to the commandment of self-preservation, if the German Reich is determined to decisively intervene for the restoration of the foundations of a reasonable Central European order and to make the resulting arrangements."

"For it has in its thousand year historical past already proven that, thanks to both its size as well as the characteristics of the German folk, it alone is called upon to solve these tasks."

The return of the Memel Germans to the Reich took place without upheaval. The western powers, however, were still feverishly active, despite all failures, to nonetheless force Germany's encirclement and to unleash a general War World at the time most favorable to them for the total destruction of the Reich. They turned their gaze to Poland and whipped up into the chauvinist instincts of this blinded folk into ever higher spheres of political megalomania.

Above all, it was England that had always seen one of its main pillars of its global power politics in the division of the European space, and which now, instead of taking the Führer's offered hand of peace, began irreconcilably and unscrupulously to break off all bridges of understanding. In vain was the Führer's incessant admonishment that one should not deceive oneself about the solidarity of the German folk, which would not retreat before any agitation by war-mongering plutocrats. In vain was his reference that in the system of the democracies the war-mongers of today can be the governments of tomorrow, in vain his declaration that the concluding of a fleet treaty with England had been carried by his "ardent wish to never again have to go to war

against England". England's hatred triumphed, and an unprecedented campaign of defamation was initiated against Germany.

On April 15, 1939, the President of the United States, Franklin Roosevelt, sent his known message to the Führer, which was cheered by the whole press of the democracies and their friends as tactical success in the struggle against the Reich. In his reply, which represents a world historical document of the first rank, the Führer once again went into the real background reasons for the world crises before the Reichstag on April 28th. He once again emphasized the Reich's peace readiness, but simultaneously cancelled the fleet treaty with England and declared the treaty with Poland dissolved, since the prerequisites for it had been blatantly and opened disrespected by the other side.

Now things invariably took their course. All the Führer's attempts to limit the conflict provoked by Poland under English pressure or to avoid it through a frank agreement failed. England, as the driving force, put itself at the head of the war party and the insightful forces in France were silenced. Now the cannons had to speak!

In this volume, I have brought together from the plentitude of Adolf Hitler's speeches in his struggle for his folk's freedom, greatness and world importance those which the Führer has delivered since the outbreak of the Reich's mightiest struggle for its independence and future. At the front of the collection stands his reply to Daladier of August 27, 1939 as a document of the human and soldierly greatness of the Führer, of the first soldier of our folk. These speeches should be constant companion, especially for the men who today, weapon in hand, protect his work with their life, so that the Reich develops and perfects itself.

The words which the Führer spoke in those decisive moments of this war, the words which in hours of historical greatness elevated the hearts of many millions, have already today become documents of world history.

They are faith in German strength and will for deed.

They are stirring truth and path into the German future.

They are fanfares of struggle and pillar of victory,

They are a chronicle of the great war for the Germanic Reich.

April 1940.

Philipp Bouhler

In the months July-August 1939, the development pushed for a decision. On August 11th, the English-French military mission embarked for Moscow. On August 25th, their activity is ended in the reception with War Minister Woroschilow, who informs that the conclusion of the act with Germany makes further negotiations superfluous.

On the same day, there takes place the signing of the English-Polish Treaty for reciprocal support and at 13:30 the Führer's last offer for a German-English agreement in a declaration to the British Ambassador.

Likewise on August 25th, the Führer has a personal note conveyed to French Minister-President Daladier, which serves the clarification of the German-French relationship.

On August 26th, French Minister-President Daladier writes a personal letter, which the Führer answers on August 27th:

The Führer's Reply to Daladier

Berlin, August 27, 1939

Dear Mr. Minister-President!

I understand the reservations that you express. I, too, have never overlooked the great responsibility that is placed upon those who are put over the fate of the folks. As an old front soldier, I know, like you, the horrors of war. From this orientation and knowledge, I have also honestly striven to eliminate all conflict matter between both our folks.

I once quite openly assured the French folk that the return of the Saar region would be the prerequisite for it. After this return, I immediately solemnly reinforced my renunciation of any further claims that could touch France. The German folk has supported this standpoint of mine. As you could convince yourself during your last visit here, it felt and feels no rancor or hatred in the awareness of its own bearing against the former valiant opponent. The pacification of our western border led to increasing sympathy, at any rate, on the side of the German folk, a sympathy that on many occasions showed itself downright demonstratively. The construction of the great western fortification, which devoured and devours numerous billions, simultaneously represents for Germany a document in the acceptance and setting down of the final Reich border. The German folk has thereby renounced two provinces which one belonged to the old German Reich, were later conquered again with much blood and were finally defended with even more blood.

The renunciation, as you must admit to me, your Excellency, not a tactical, outwardly displayed bearing, rather a decision that experienced its logical hardening in all our measures. You will not be able to relate to me a single case, Mr. Minister-President, in which we violated this permanent fixing of the German Reich order in the west through a single line or a single speech. I believed I had, through this renunciation and through this bearing, eliminated any conceivable conflict matter between both our folks, which would be able to lead to a repetition of the tragedy of 1914/18.

This voluntary limitation of German life claims in the west, however, cannot be interpreted as an acceptance of the Versailles Dictate in all other areas as well.

I have now really tried year after year to achieve the revision of at least the most impossible and most unbearable decrees of this dictate along the path of negotiation. This was impossible. That the revision had to come, was known and clear to numerous insightful men from all folks. Whatever one can bring against my method, whatever

one believes one must hold against it, it must not be overlooked or disputed that it was made possible for me, in many cases, to find, without new blood-letting, solutions satisfying not only for Germany, rather, that through the manner of proceeding, I freed the statesmen of other lands from the obligation, often impossible for them, to have to take responsibility for this revision before their own folks; for anyway, your Excellency will have to admit one thing to me: The revision had to come. The Versailles Dictate was unbearable. No Frenchman of honor, not even you, Mr. Daladier, would have acted differently than I in a similar situation. I have now also tried in this sense to remove from the world the most unreasonable measure of the Versailles Dictate.

I have made an offer to the Polish government at which the German folk is shocked. No other than I could have dared it at all to set before the public with such an offer. Hence it could also be one time only. I am now deeply convinced that, if, especially from England, back then, instead of releasing a wild campaign against Germany in the press, inserting rumors of a German mobilization, Poland had been somehow urged to be reasonable, Europe could today and for 25 years enjoy the state of deepest peace. But first Polish public opinion was incited through the lie of German aggression, its own necessary clear decisions were made more difficult for the Polish government, and, above, then the view for the boundary of real possibilities was blurred through the then following guarantee promise.

The Polish government rejected the proposals. Polish public opinion, in the sure conviction that, after all, England and France would now fight for Poland, began to raise demands that one would perhaps be able to characterize as ridiculous insanity, if they were not so infinitely dangerous. Back then, am unbearable terror set in, a physical and economic harassment of the Germans numbering more than one and a half million in the regions separated from the Reich. I do not want to speak here about the atrocities that occurred. Solely that Danzig as well was increasingly made aware through the continued excesses of Polish authorities that it had apparently been surrendered beyond rescue to the arbitrariness of a power alien to the national character of the city and populace.

May I now allow myself the question, Mr. Daladier, how you as Frenchman would act, if, through whatever unfortunate outcome of a valiant struggle, one of your provinces had been cut off through a corridor occupied by a foreign power, a large city - say Marseille - was prevented from affirming France, and the Frenchmen living in this region were now persecuted, beaten, mistreated, yes, murdered in a bestial manner?

You are a Frenchman, Mr. Daladier, and I hence know how you would act. I am a German, Mr. Daladier. Do not doubt my feeling of honor and my consciousness of duty to act exactly so. If you now had this misfortune, which we possess, would you then, Mr. Daladier, understand, if Germany without any reason would stand up for it

that the corridor through France remains, that the robbed regions not be allowed to return, and that Marseille's return to France be banned?

At any rate, I cannot imagine, Mr. Daladier, that Germany would fight against you for this reason. For I and all of us have renounced Alsace-Lorraine in order to avoid further bloodletting; all the less so would we shed blood in order to maintain an injustice that would have to be unbearable for you, just as it would be meaningless for us.

Everything that you write in your letter, Mr. Daladier, I feel exactly like you. Perhaps precisely we as old front soldiers can most easily understand each other in many areas; solely, I ask you, understand this as well: That it is impossible for a nation of honor to renounce almost two million people and to see them mistreated on its own borders.

I have hence raised a clear demand: Danzig and the corridor must return to Germany. The Macedonian conditions on our eastern border must be eliminated. I see no way to be able to move Poland, which, after all, now feels itself unassailable under the protection of its guarantees, to a peaceful solution here. But I would despair of my folk's honorable future, if under such circumstances we were not determined to solve the question one way or another. If fate thereby now again forces both our folks to combat, then there would still be a difference in the motives. I, Mr. Daladier, then fight for my folk for the correction of an injustice, and the others for the maintaining of the same. This is all the more tragic as many of the important men of your own folk have likewise recognized the senselessness of the solution back then as well as the impossibility of its permanent upholding. I am clear about the grave consequences that such a conflict brings with it. But I believe Poland would have to bear the gravest ones, for regardless of how a war over this question would turn out, the Polish state of today would be lost one way or another.

But that we should now allow both our folks to enter into a new bloody war of annihilation for this, is no only for you, rather also for me, Mr. Daladier, very painful. But as already noted, I see no possibility from us to be able to influence Po-land in a more reasonable sense for the correction of a situation that is unbearable for the German folk and the German Reich.

Adolf Hitler.

On August 30, 24:00, the Britain Ambassador hands the Reich Minister for Foreign Affairs a memorandum, and

on August 31, 1939, 21:00, Germany's last proposals for a peaceful solution of the Danzig and corridor problem are published.

Simultaneously with this, the Polish provocations take the upper hand and escalate on August 31s', amidst participation of regular Polish soldiers, to open attacks against Reich territory.

The High Command of the Wehrmacht informs on September 1st:

"Berlin, September 1: On the order of the Führer and Supreme Commander, the Wehrmacht has assumed the active protection of the Reich. In fulfillment of this assignment to resist Polish violence, troops of the German army early this morning assembled on all German-Polish borders for the counterattack.

"Simultaneously, squadrons of the Luftwaffe started for the beating down of military targets in Poland.

"The Kriegsmarine has taken over the protection of the Baltic Sea."

The Führer speaks before the Reichstag:

Speech on September 1, 1939 in Berlin Before the Reichstag

Delegates!

Men of the German Reichstag!

For months, we have all been suffering under the torment of a problem that the Versailles Treaty, that means, the Versailles Dictate, also inflicted on us, a problem that in its deterioration and degeneration had become unbearable for us. Danzig was and is a German city. The corridor was and is German. All these regions owe their cultural settlement exclusively to the German folk. Without the German folk, deepest barbarism would prevail in all these eastern regions.

Danzig was separated from us, the corridor along with other German regions of the east annexed, above all, however, the German minorities living there treated in the most torturous manner. Over a million people of German blood had to leave their homeland already back then in the years 1919/20.

As always, I have tried here as well to produce a change in the unbearable condition along the path of peaceful revision proposals. It is a lie, if it is claimed in the other world that we tried to impose all our revisions only through pressure. 15 years before National Socialism came to power, one had the possibility to carry out the revisions along the path of the most peaceful arrangement, along the path of peaceful agreement. One did not do it. In every single case, I then later for my part not once, rather often made proposals for the revision of the unbearable conditions.

All these proposals, as you know, were rejected. I do not need to list them here individually: the proposals for armament limitations, yes, if necessary, for the elimination of arms, the proposals for the limitation of war conduct, the proposals for the exclusion of certain methods of modern warfare that in my eyes are irreconcilable with international law. You know the proposals that I made over the necessity of the restoration of German sovereignty over the German Reich regions. You know the endless attempts that I made for a peaceful solution and for an agreement over the problem of Austria, later over the problem of the Sudetenland, Bohemia and Moravia. It was all in vain.

One thing is now impossible: to demand that an impossible condition be fixed along the path of peaceful revisions - and to consistently refuse the peaceful revisions. It is also impossible to say that the one who in such a situation then resorts to undertaking these revisions on his own violates the law. For the dictate of Versailles is no law for us Germans! It was a dictate. It is not acceptable to force somebody at

gunpoint with the threat of the starvation of millions of people to a signature and then to proclaim the document with this coerced signature as a solemn law.

So have I tried in the case of Danzig, of the corridor etc., to solve the problems along the path of a peaceful discussion. That the problems had to be solved, that was clear. And that the date for this solution may perhaps be uninteresting for the western states, is understandable to us. But this date is not in-different to us, and, above all, it was not and could not be indifferent for the victims suffering the most.

In conferences with the Polish statesmen, I presented the ideas that you have heard from me here in my past Reichstag speech, talked them through with them. No human being could have been able to say or to claim that this was, say, an improper procedure or even improper pressure. But then I finally had the German proposals formulated. And I must hence once more repeat that there exists nothing more loyal and more modest than these proposals presented by myself. And I wish to say this now here to the world: I alone was at all in the position to make such proposals! For I know exactly that back then I put myself into opposition to the view of millions of Germans.

These proposals have been rejected. But not only that, they were answered first, with mobilization, second, with an increased terror, with escalated pressure on the ethnic Germans in these regions and with a slow strangulation struggle against the Free City of Danzig, economically and in terms of tariff policy, and in the final weeks finally also militarily and in terms of transportation.

Poland has directed its struggle against the Free City of Danzig. It was furthermore not ready to solve the corridor question in a reasonable manner fair to both interests. And it finally did not think about upholding its obligations to the minorities.

I must ascertain one thing here: Germany has upheld these obligations. The minorities that live in Germany are not persecuted. A Frenchman should stand up and should claim that, say, the 50,000 or 100,000 Frenchmen in the Saar region are suppressed, tormented or disenfranchised. Nobody can say that.

I have now calmly looked on at this development for four months. But not without warning again and again. I have now in the recent time intensified these warnings. I have had the Polish Ambassador informed, already more than three weeks ago, that, if Poland would undertake further measures of suppression against the Germans there, that then Germany would no longer be able to look on inactively! And I have also left no doubt that in this regard one should not confuse the present-day Germany with the Germany that existed before us. One has tried to justify the action against the Germans in that one declared the ethnic Germans had committed

provocations. I do not know wherein the provocations lie from children or women whom one mistreats, whom one drags off, or wherein the provocation lies from those whom one has in the most bestial, sadistic manner in part mistreated, in part killed. That I do not know. But I know just one thing; that there exists no great power with honor that would look on at such conditions for long!

I have also tried one final time, although - I admit it - I was inwardly convinced that the Polish government, perhaps also as a result of its dependency on a now unleashed soldier rabble, was not serious about real agreement -, I tried one final time to accept a mediation proposal from the British government. It proposed not that it wanted to conduct the negotiations itself, rather it proposed and assured it would establish a direct connection between Poland and Germany in order, along this path, to once more enter the discussion.

Now I must ascertain here the following: I have accepted this proposal. I have worked out foundations for these conferences that are known to you. And I have now sat there with my government for two whole days and have waited whether it pleases the Polish government to now send us an authorized agent or not. Yesterday evening, it did not send us an authorized agent, rather had us informed through its ambassador that it deliberates at present whether it is in the position and to what degree it is in the position to enter into the English proposals, and it would then inform England of this.

Delegates! If one can expect so much from the German Reich and its chief of state, and if the German Reich and its chief of state would tolerate that, then the German nation would deserve nothing else than to withdraw from the political stage!

And here one has greatly deceived oneself about me! One should not confuse my love for peace and my infinite patience with weakness or even cowardice!

I hence decided yesterday evening to also inform the British government that under these circumstances I can no longer find any inclination on the side of the Polish government to enter into a really serious discussion with us. The mediation proposals had hence failed. For meanwhile, first, as first reply to this mediation proposal, the Polish mobilization had come, and as additional reply new atrocities. These events have now repeated themselves again last night. After we had already recently had in a single night 21 border incidents, last night there were 14, among them three quite serious ones.

I have hence now decided to speak the same language with Poland in which Poland has now been speaking to us for months!

If now the statesmen in the west declare that this touches their interests, then I can only regret such a declaration. But it cannot make me deviate for a second from the fulfillment of my duty.

What more does one want from us? I have solemnly assured, and I repeat it, that we demand nothing from these western states and will never demand anything. I have assured that the boundary between France and Germany is a permanent one. I have again and again offered England friendship and, if necessary, the closest alliance. But love cannot be offered from just one side only. It must find its reciprocity from the other.

Germany has no interests in the west. Our West Wall is simultaneously for all time the Reich's border toward the west. We also have no goals for the future. The Reich's position will no longer change.

The other European states, they understand our bearing in part. I wish to thank here, above all, Italy, which has supported us the whole time. But you will also understand that, for the execution of this struggle, I do not want to appeal to foreign help. We will solve this task ourselves. The neutral states, they have assured us of their neutrality in itself, just as we have already previously guaranteed it to them. We are sacredly serious about this assurance. And as long as nobody else violates his neutrality, we will likewise painstaking respect it, for what should we wish or want from them?

But I am happy to be able to inform you from this spot especially of an event. You know that Russia and Germany are governed by two different doctrines. There was only one question that had to be clarified: Germany does not have the intention to export its doctrine. At the moment when Soviet Russia does not intend to export its doctrine to Germany, at the same moment do I no longer see any reason for us to even just once again take a stand against each other. And it has become totally clear to us, both sides: Any struggle of our folks against each other would only benefit others. We have hence decided to conclude a pact that for all future precludes any application of force between both of us, which obligates us to consultation in certain European questions, which enables for us economic cooperation, and which, above all, insures that the energies of both these great, mighty states are not used up with or against each other. Any attempt by the west to change something here will fail. I wish to assure this right here that this political decision means a tremendous turn for the future and is a permanent one.

I believe that the whole German folk will welcome this my political view. For Russia and Germany fought against each other in the World War, and both were the suffering parties in the end. This should and will no longer happen a second time.

The non-aggression and consultation pact, which went into effect already on the day of its signing, yesterday received the highest ratification in Moscow as well as in Berlin. And in Russia as well, this pact was welcomed exactly the same as you welcome it here. 1 can only concur, word for word, with the speech that Peoples Commissar Molotov, the Russian Foreign Minister, delivered.

Our goals:

I am firmly determined:

First, to solve the question of Danzig,

second the question of the corridor and

third to make sure that in Germany's relationship with Poland a shift sets in, a change that ensures peaceful co-existence.

I am determined in the process to fight for so long until either the present Polish government is inclined to create this prerequisite or until another Polish government is inclined to it. I want to remove from the German borders the element of uncertainty, the atmosphere of eternal civil war similar conditions. I want to make sure that in the east the peace on the border is not a different one than the one we know on our other borders. I want in the process to so undertake the necessary actions that they do not contradict what I announced to you, delegates, here in the Reichstag itself as proposals to the rest of the world. This means, I do not want to wage war against women and children. I have given my Luftwaffe the order to limit its attacks to military objects. But if the opponent believes he can read from this a license on his side to fight with the reverse methods, then he receives a reply that he will not know what hit him!

Poland has last night already for the first time fired on our own territory with regular soldiers. As of 05:45, we are now shooting back! And from on, bomb will be repaid with bomb! Whoever fights with poison, will be combated with poison gas. Whoever removes himself from the rules of a humane warfare, can expect from us nothing else than that we take the same step. I will wage this struggle, quite regardless, against whom, for so long until the Reich's security and its rights are guaranteed.

I have now worked for over six years on the building of the German Wehrmacht. In this time, over 90 billion were used for the building of this Wehrmacht. It is today the best equipped, and it stands far above any comparison with that of the year 1914. My trust in it is unshakeable.

If I summon this Wehrmacht, and if I now demand from the German folk sacrifice and, if necessary, all sacrifices, then I have a right to it. For I am myself also just as ready today as I was before to make every personal sacrifice. I demand from no

German man something that I myself was not voluntarily ready to do for over four years at any time. There should be no deprivation in Germany that I do not immediately take upon myself. My whole life belongs, especially from now on, to my folk. I want nothing else than to be the first soldier of the German Reich.

I have thereby again put on that uniform that was once the most sacred and dear one to me myself. I will only remove it after victory, or I will not experience this end!

If something should now happen to me in this struggle, then my first successor is Hermann Göring. If something should happen to party comrade Göring, the next successor is party comrade Hess. You would then be just as obligated to them as leader to blind loyalty and obedience as to me. If something should happen to party comrade Hess as well, I will then summon the senate through law, which should then select from its ranks the most worthy, that means the most valiant.

As National Socialist and as German soldier, I enter this struggle with a strong heart. My whole life was nothing else than a single struggle for my folk, for its resurrection, for Germany. Over this struggle always stood just an affirmation of faith in this folk. One word, I have never become acquainted with, it is: capitulation.

But if anybody believes that we perhaps approach a difficult time, then I would like to ask him to consider that once a Prussian king with a ridiculously small state opposed one of the greatest coalitions and in three wars nonetheless in the end endured successful, because he possessed that devout, strong heart that we as well need in this time.

And I hence now want to assure the whole surrounding world: A November 1918 will never again repeat itself in German history!

Just as I myself am ready to risk my life at any time - anybody can take it from me - for my folk and for Germany, so do I demand the same from everybody else. But whoever believes that he can somehow, in one way or another, be it directly or indirectly, disobey this national commandment, that person falls! Traitors have nothing to expect but death!

We all hence just affirm our old principle: ***It is totally unimportant, whether we live, but it is necessary that our folk lives, that Germany lives***. - I expect from you as emissaries of the Reich that you now fulfill your duty at all the posts you are put. You must be standard-bearers of the resistance, cost what it may. Nobody should report to me that in his province, in his district or in his squad or in his cell the morale could once be bad. You are bearers, responsible bearers of morale. I am responsible for the morale in the German folk, you are responsible for the morale in your provinces, in your districts. Nobody has the right to cast off this responsibility. We must not now

ask ourselves about whatever morale, rather exclusively about our duty. And the duty is shown to us. The sacrifice that it will demand from us is not greater than the sacrifice that numerous generations have made. All the men who before us had to assemble for Germany had to take the most bitter and most difficult path, have sacrificed and performed nothing else than what we as well must perform. Their sacrifice was a no cheaper and no less painful and hence no easier one than the sacrifice would be that will be demanded from us.

I expect from German woman as well that she integrates himself with iron discipline, exemplary, into this great community of struggle. German youth, however, will with radiant heart automatically fulfill what the nation, the National Socialist state expects and demands from it.

If we form this community, tighten woven, determined for everything, never willing to capitulate, then our will will master every distress.

U want to close with the affirmation that I once pronounced when I began the struggle for power in the Reich. Back then, I said, if our will is so strong that no distress is still able to compel it, then our will and our German steel will also master the distress!

Germany - Sieg Heil!

On the day of his Reichstag speech of September 1st, the Führer turns with the following appeal to the Wehrmacht:

To the Wehrmacht!

The Polish state has refused peaceful arrangement of neighborly relations striven for by me, it has instead appealed to arms. The Germans in Poland are persecuted with bloody terror, driven from house and home. A series of border violations unbearable for a great power prove that the Poles are no longer willing to respect the German Reich border. In order to put an end to this insane activity, no other means remains for me than from now on to employ force against force.

The German Wehrmacht will wage the struggle for the honor and the life rights of the resurrected German folk with hard determination.

I expect that every soldier, mindful of the great tradition of eternal German soldiery, will fulfill his duty down to the last.

Always and in all situations, remain aware that you are the representatives of National Socialist Greater Germany!

Long live our folk and our Reich!

Berlin, September 1, 1939.
Adolf Hitler.

Mussolini undertakes on September 2nd a final attempt for the preservation of European peace. Germany and France agree to his proposal. English refuses.

On September 3rd, 09:00, the British ambassador hands the Reich Foreign Minister an ultimatum.

At 11:15, the British State Secretary for Foreign Affairs hands the German agent in London the British declaration of war.

At 11:30, the Reich government rejects the British ultimatum in a memorandum.

The French government informs at 12:00 "that it sees itself obligated, as of today, September 3rd, 17:00, to fulfill the treaty bonds..."

In a radio telegram to the German diplomatic missions of September 3rd, it is stated to the events of September 3rd:

"...Thus the seed of the men has sprouted, who have been preaching Germany's destruction in England for years. This course of events clearly shows England's full responsibility for the outbreak of war."

The Führer issues the following proclamations to folk, party and Wehrmacht:

To the German Folk!

For centuries, England has pursued the goal of making the European folks defenseless against the British world domination policy, in that it proclaimed a balance of power, according to which England laid claim to the right to attack and destroy the, at the time, most dangerous appearing European state under flimsy pretext. Do did it combat the Spanish world power, later the Dutch, then the French and, since the year 1871, the German. We ourselves have been witnesses of the encirclement struggle practiced by England against the Germany of the prewar period.

As soon as the German Reich, under its National Socialist leadership, began to recover from the terrible consequences of the Versailles Dictate and threatened to survive the crisis, the British encirclement immediately set in again. The British war agitators known from the World War did not want the German folk to live. They lied before the war that their fight was only against the House of Hohenzollern or German militarism, that they had no designs on German colonies, that they also did not think about taking away our commercial fleet, and then they forced the German folk under the Versailles Dictate. The loyal fulfillment of this dictate would have sooner or later exterminated 20 million Germans.

I have undertaken to mobilize the German nation's resistance against that and in a unique peaceful work to again ensure the German folk work and bread. But to the same degree to which the peaceful revision of the Versailles Violence Dictate appeared to succeed and the German folk again began to live free, the new English encirclement policy set in again.

The same war agitators as before 1914 stepped forward. I have offered England and the English folk the German folk's agreement and friendship numerous times. My whole policy was built upon the idea of this agreement. I have always been pushed back, and amidst hypocritical declarations ever new pretexts were sought in order to restrict German living space and to impede or even prevent our own life where we never threatened British interests.

England has brought Poland to that bearing that made a peaceful agreement impossible. It has, through its guarantee declaration, opened to the Polish government the prospects that it may provoke, yes, attack Germany without any danger.

But the British government has deceived itself in one thing. The Germany of the year 1939 is no longer the Germany of 1914, and the chancellor of the German Reich is no longer named Bethmann Hollweg.

I have already declared in my speeches in Saarbrücken and Wilhelmshaven that we could defend ourselves against the British encirclement policy. Above all, I have left no doubt that, despite all patience and forbearance, the Polish attacks against Germans as well as against the Free City of Danzig must find an end. Reinforced by the British guarantee declaration and by the promises of British war agitators, Poland has believed it could ignore these warnings. For two days now, the German Wehrmacht has been fighting in the east in order to restore the security of Reich territory.

Polish resistance is being broken by our soldiers. But England can believe: Today 90 million people are united in the German Reich. They are determined not to let themselves be strangulated by England. They have not, like England, conquered through war 40 million square kilometers on this earth. But they have the will to live on the soil that belongs to them and also not to let this life be taken away from them by England.

We know that the British folk as a whole cannot be made responsible for all this.

It is that Jewish-plutocratic and democratic ruling stratum, which wants to see in all the world's folks only obedient slaves, which hates our new Reich, because it sees in it examples of a social work, of which it fears that it could have a contagious effect in its own land as well.

We now take up the fight against this new attempt to destroy Germany.

We will wage it with National Socialist determination. The British money and power politicians, however, will learn what it means to want to go to war against National Socialist Germany without any reason. I was aware for months that the goal of these war agitators had been set long ago. The intention to attack Germany at whatever favorable opportunity stood firm. My decision, however, to wage this struggle and to strike back, was even more firm.

Germany will no longer capitulate!

A life under a second, even worse dictate of Versailles, has no meaning. We have not been a slave folk and also do not want to be one in the future! Whatever sacrifices Germans have had to make in the past for the existence of our folk and of our Reich, they should not be greater than those that we are ready to take upon ourselves. This decision is relentless.

It hence implies incisive measures. Above all, it forces one law upon us:

If the solider fights at the front, nobody should profit from the war, if the solider at the front falls, nobody at home should withdraw from his duty. Whoever disobeys these commandments, cannot count on the folk community showing concern for him.

Furthermore, we know:

As long as the German folk was united in its history, it has never yet been defeated. Only the disunity of the year 1918 led to the collapse. Hence whoever transgresses against this unity and union, has nothing else to expect than that he is destroyed as enemy of the nation. If our folk fulfills its highest duty in such a sense, then that Lord will also stand by us, who has always given his blessing to the one who was determined to help himself.

The laws necessary for the defense and security of the Reich are being issued, the men envisioned for their execution and upholding picked. I myself today go to the front.

Berlin, September 3, 1939.
Adolf Hitler.

To the National Socialist German Workers Party!

National Socialists!

Our Jewish-democratic world enemy has managed to incite the English folk into a state of war against Germany. The reasons for it are just as lied and thin as the reasons were in 1914. Nothing has changed in that. Changed, however, are the Reich's energy and will this time to wage the fight forced upon us with the determination that is necessary in order to thwart the newly intended crime against mankind. The year 1918 will not return. The German Wehrmacht will in a few weeks smash the encirclement ring laid in the east by the English. It will in the west protect German soil in the greatest fortification works of all time.

The German folk will make every sacrifice in the knowledge that, according to its number, its worth and its historical past, it does not need to fear this conflict. We have been defeated in history only when we were disunited.

That the German Reich and the folk should enter and exit this war with indestructible unity, let that be our oath. Therein lies the highest task for the National Socialist movement. Whoever opposes the community demands, removes himself from this community performance or whoever believes he can even sabotage it, will be pitilessly destroyed this time.

The good soldier at the front should know that his life always means more to us than that of traitors. But he should also know that in this fight, for the first time in world, one does not profit while the others bleed.

Hence whoever believes he can enrich himself in these fateful months or years, acquires no fortune, rather fetches himself only death.

I make all National Socialist functionaries responsible for it that in their personal life as well they take upon themselves as good example the sacrifices which the community must bear. What we possess today is totally unimportant, decisive is only one thing: that Germany triumphs!

What we lose today, is without significance, but important is that our folk resists its attacker and thereby gains its future. In a few weeks, the National Socialist folk community must have transformed itself into a unit sworn together in life and death.

Then England's capitalist war agitators and its footmen will recognize in a short time what it means to have attacked Europe's largest folk state without any reason.

The path that we stride today is not more difficult than the path from Versailles to 1939.

We have nothing to lose, we have everything to gain.

Berlin, September 3, 1939.
Adolf Hitler.

To the Soldiers of the Eastern Army!

For months, England has been practicing its policy of encirclement against Germany already known before the World War. It sought for this purpose to make use of all European states and folks. Poland was chosen to play an even more important role in this encirclement policy, since the Soviet Union refused to subordinate its interests to the English ones. The persecution of the Germans in Poland, the fight against the Free City of Danzig, begun with all means, forced me initially on our eastern front to take measures for the Reich's security. The non-aggression and consultation pact with Soviet Russia has united both of Europe's biggest and strongest states in the will to never again let their folks fight against each other. Poland, however, as the most important link in the British encirclement and annihilation policy, must be forced to peace.

Soldiers of the Eastern Army!

You have already in barely two days accomplished achievements upon which all of Germany looks with pride. I know that you recognize the greatness of the task put to you and do you utmost in order to first beat down this opponent with the maximum speed. The West Wall expanded with tremendous means will meanwhile shield and hence protect Germany against France and England.

I myself go as first soldier of the World War and as Supreme Commander yet today to the front to you.

Berlin, September 3, 1939.
Adolf Hitler.

To the Soldiers of the Western Army!

Soldiers of the western front!

Just like before the war, England, even after the war, continued to practice the policy of encirclement against Germany. Although Germany has put demands to no other state in the Reich's west, although Germany claimed no territorial revisions in these regions, and although Germany has so often made the offer of a heartfelt agreement, yes, friendship, to precisely England as well as to France, the British government, driven by the war agitators still known to us from the World War, has decided to drop its mask and under a shabby pretext declare a state of war. It has for months covered the Polish attacks against the life and safety of ethnic Germans as well as the rape of the Free City of Danzig with the promise it wanted to immediately help Poland, if Germany should defend itself against it.

After Poland, in the feeling of this protection, has now also undertaken the most aggressive acts of attack against Reich territory, I have decided to burst this ring laid around Germany. The non-aggression and consultation pact with Soviet Russia gives us the security of a policy of peaceful agreement with this largest empire of the east. For two days now, elements of the German Wehrmacht have been fighting in the east in reply to the Polish attack actions for the establishment of peace that should ensure the German folk life and freedom. Their advance, already after 48 hours, has been accompanied everywhere by success. Although only a small portion of the German Luftwaffe has found action in the east, it dominates all of Polish air space. The German folk and your comrades in the east now expect from you, soldiers of the western front, that you guard the Reich's western borders against any attack, unshakeable like a wall of steel and iron, in a fortification work that is a hundred times stronger than the never defeated western front of the Great War.

If you do your duty, the struggle in the east will, in a few weeks, have found its successful conclusion. And then the strength of the whole 90 million state stands behind you.

As old soldier of the World War and as your Supreme Commander, I go today to the eastern army in trust in you.

Our plutocratic opponents will realize that a different Ger-many opposes them than that of the year 1914.

Berlin, September 3, 1939.
Adolf Hitler.

The campaign in Poland becomes a "campaign of 18 days".

On September 1st, there is fighting in front of Graudenz, the Jablunka Pass is taken and the Luftwaffe has, in mighty strikes, covered numerous facilities with bombs.

On September 2nd, the Polish army elements located in the northern corridor are encircled. Already now, the Polish Supreme Commander Marshal Rydz-Smigly wanted to capitulate, but was held back from this solely through false English reports.

On September 6th, Krakau is taken and the Polish government flees to Lublin.

On September 8th, Lodsch is occupied and Warsaw reached for the first time. On the 12th, German troops occupy Posen, Gnesen and Thorn.

On September 13th, the Polish army south of Radom is annihilated, Lemberg is reached and on the 15th Brest-Litowsk.

On September 17th, Warsaw is surrounded and sends a negotiator.

The Polish government has fled to Romania.

In a message to the foreign missions, the Soviet Union informs of its decision, in the night to September 17th, to give its army the order to cross the Polish border.

The Polish campaign has essentially found its end.

The Führer speaks on September 19th from liberated Danzig in the historical Artushof to the liberated ethnic Germans and the German folk.

Speech on September 19,1939
in the Artushof in Danzig

My provincial governor!

My dear Danzig folk comrades and my folk comrades!

Not only you experience this moment most deeply moved, the whole German folk also experiences it. I myself am aware of the greatness of this hour. I step for the first time on a soil that was taken possession of by German settlers half a millennium before the first Whites settled in present-day New York. Half a millennium longer has this soil been German, had remained German and will - we can all be convinced of this - remain German!

The fate that has struck this city and this beautiful land has been the fate of all of Germany. The World War, this senseless struggle of probably all time, has made this land and this city its victims as well - this World war, which only had losers and no victors, this World War, which, after its conclusion, probably left behind in all the conviction that a similar fate should probably never again repeat itself, and which was unfortunately today forgotten by precisely those who already back then were the main agitators and also probably the main interested parties in this slaughter of folks.

When this struggle came to an end back then, into which Germany had entered without any war goal, peace was sup-posed to come to mankind, which was supposed to lead to a new resurrection of right and hence to a final elimination of all distress. The peace was then presented to our folk at Versailles not in free negotiation, rather forced through dictate.

The fathers of this peace saw in it the end of the German folk. Perhaps many people believed to see in this peace an end of the distress, but it was, in any case, just the beginning of new chaos.

The war agitators of back then and the war enders deceived themselves in one thing. Through this peace back then, they did not solve a single problem, rather created countless problems anew. And it was only a question of time, when the trampled German nation would pull itself up in order to bring the newly created problems to an end on its own. For one overlooked back then the most essential problem at all, namely the fact that the folks exist, whether or not this suits one or the other British war agitator. There are now 82 million Germans united in this living space. The worst injustice was inflicted upon Germany in the peace of Versailles. If today a statesman of another folk believes he can state that he lacks trust in the word of German statesmen of the German folk, then we Germans alone have the right to say that we

lack any trust in the assurances of those who back then so shamefully broke their most solemn assurances.

I do not want to speak now at all about the injustice of Versailles, - the worst thing in the life of folks is perhaps not even the injustice at all, rather the senselessness, the absurdity, the stupidity, which with one back then imposed upon the world a peace that simply ignored all historical and economic, all folkish and political facts. Back then, one made arrangements of which may downright doubt, whether the men who committed them had really been rational. Lacking any knowledge of the historical development of these living spaces, lacking any economic understanding, these men ravaged around in Europe back then, tore up states, divided landscapes, suppressed folks, destroyed cultures.

This land as well was a victim of this madness back then and the Polish state as such a product of this nonsense! What Germany had to sacrifice for this Polish state, is probably not known to the world. I must state only this one thing here: All these regions, which back then were annexed by Poland, are to be ascribed in their development solely to German energy, German industriousness, German creative working. They owe cultural significance exclusively to the German folk. That back then one ripped a German province from the German Reich, that one allotted other regions to this new Polish state, was motivated by ethnic necessities. In the process, elections later proved everywhere that nobody had a desire to enter this Polish state. This Polish state, which had emerged from the blood burden of countless German regiments, then expanded at the cost of old German settlement territory and, above all, at the cost of any rationality and any economic opportunity.

One thing has already become clear in the last twenty years: The Pole, who had not created this culture, was also not capable of even just maintaining it. It has shown itself again and again that only the person who is himself culture-creatively talented is also able to maintain a real cultural accomplishment in the long run. Fifty more years would have sufficed in order to return again to barbarism these regions, which the German laboriously tore from barbarism with industriousness and diligence. The traces of this reversion and this decay already showed themselves everywhere.

Poland itself was in the process a state of nationalities; one had created that for which one reproached the old Austrian state. Poland was never a democracy in the process. A very thin, dizzy upper stratum ruled here not only over foreign nationalities, rather also over its so-called own folk. It was a state by force, governed through the rubber-club, through police and, in the final analysis, also through the military. The lot of the Germans in this state was horrible. There is still a difference, whether a folk of less cultural significance has the misfortune to be governed by a culturally higher one, or whether a folk of a high cultural significance is subjected to the tragic fate of being raped by an inferior one. For in the lower folk, all those

inferiority complexes will then play out and react against the better, culture-bearing folk. One will then mistreat this folk cruelly and barbaric. And the Germans have been the witnesses of this fate for almost 20 years now.

I do not need to portray here in detail the lot of the Germans. It was, as already emphasized, tragic and painful. Nonetheless, I have tried, here like everywhere, to find a solution that could have perhaps led to a reasonable settlement.

I one tried, in the west, then later in the south of the Reich, to obtain definitively drawn borders in order to thereby remove one region after the other from uncertainty and to ensure peace there for the future. I have endeavored to achieve the same thing here as well.

Back then, there was a man in Poland with incontestably realistic insight and also energy. I managed to achieve an agreement with Marshal Pilsudski back then that was supposed to pave the way for a peaceful agreement by both nations; a treaty that could not from the start, say, condone what had been created in the Versailles Treaty, rather strove, amidst total passing over of this treaty, to secure at least the basis for a reasonable, bearable coexistence.

As long as the Marshal lived, it seemed as if this attempt could perhaps contribute to a relaxation of the situation. But already immediately after his death, an intensified struggle against Germandom set in. This struggle, which expressed it-self in a thousand forms, embittered and darkened the relations between both folks to an increasing degree, in the long run, it was simply hardly possible to patiently look on as in the land next door, which in itself had inflicted the severest injustice upon Germany, the German minority living there was persecuted in a downright barbaric manner. The world, which immediately sheds tears, if a Polish Jew emigrated just a few decades previously is deported, this world has remained totally silent and deaf toward the suffering of those who, not by the thousands, rather by the millions, have, as a result of the Versailles dictate, had to leave their former homeland, then, if it is about Germans. What in the process is for all of us and for me as well not only the most distressing, rather also the most outrageous, thing, laid in the fact that we had to endure all that from a state that stood far beneath us. For, in the final analysis, Germany was simply a great power, after all, even if a few lunatics believed they can erase the life right of great nation through a crazy treaty or a dictate. Germany was a great power and had to look on how a folk standing far beneath us and a state standing far beneath us mistreated these Germans here. And especially here, there were two quite unbearable conditions:

First, a city whose German character could be disputed by nobody is not only prevented from seeking its path back to the Reich, rather it is systemically tried to be gradually made Polish along a thousand detours.

Second, a province that is cut off from the German Reich possesses not only no direct access, rather the transportation to this province is dependent upon every conceivable harassment or upon the benevolence of this Polish state.

No power in the world would have tolerated this condition as long as Germany. I do not know what England would have said to a similar peace solution at its expense, or how one would have taken it in France or even in America.

I have now tried to find paths to a solution, and indeed to a bearable solution of this problem as well. I have presented these attempts in the form of verbal proposals to the Polish rulers back then. You know these proposals. They were more than measured. I tried to find an arrangement between our wish to again bring East Prussia into connection with the Reich and the wish of the Poles to keep access to the sea. I tried, above all, to find a synthesis between the German character of the city of Danzig and its will to return to the German Reich and the economic demands of the Poles.

I believe I may probably say that back then 1 was overly modest. And there were moments when I myself put the question to myself, pondering and examining, whether I can indeed take responsible before my own folk to present such proposals for the solution to the Polish government. I only did it, because I wanted to spare the German folk and the Polish one as well the suffering of another conflict.

I then repeated this offer early this spring in the most concrete form: Danzig should return to the German Reich. An extraterritorial road should be built to East Prussia - naturally at our expense. Poland should in exchange receive the most liberal harbor rights in Danzig, the same extraterritorial access. In exchange, I was even ready to guarantee the, for us barely tolerable, condition at the borders, after all, and, finally, let Poland participate in the security of Slovakia.

I do not know in what mental state the Polish government was when it rejected these proposals! But I know that countless millions of Germans actually sighed with relief, since they, however, stood on the standpoint that I had thereby gone too far.

Poland gave as reply the order for the first mobilization. Thereupon, a wild terror immediately set in. My request to the Polish Foreign Minister of back then to visit me in Berlin in order to once more talk through these questions was refused. He traveled, instead of to Berlin, to London!

Now came those weeks and months of continually escalating threats, threats which, after all, would have been hardly bearable for a small state, for a great power are impossible in the long run. We could read in Polish newspapers that it was no longer about the Danzig problem at all, rather that it was about the East Prussia problem, that Poland would soon annex East Prussia.

That now surpassed itself. Other Polish newspapers declared the even East Prussia would not solve the problem, rather that Pomerania had to come to Poland under all circumstances. And, finally, it was presented as questionable, whether the Oder could suffice as border at all, whether Poland's natural border was actually not the Oder, rather the Elbe. One still only wracked one's brain, after all, whether one should annihilate our armies in front of or behind Berlin. A Polish Marshal, who has now disgracefully left his army in the lurch, he declared that he would chop into pieces Germany and the German armies.

And parallel to that, a martyrdom set in for our ethnic Ger-mans. Tens of thousands were dragged off, mistreated, killed in the crudest manner; sadistic beasts unleashed their perverse instincts, and - this democratic, pious world looks on without beating an eyelash.

I have often put the question to myself: Who can have so blinded Poland? Did one really believe that the German nation would tolerate that from such a ridiculous state in the long run? Did one seriously believe that? One probably indeed believed it, because one had portrayed that from a certain spot to the Poles as possible; from a spot where the war agitators have sat not just in the last decades, rather for centuries - and they still sit there even today! One declared there that Germany as power, after all, does not have to valued at all. The Poles were persuaded there that they would easily be in the situation to offer resistance to Germany. And one went even one step farther there: They were finally given the assurance there that, if their own resistance should not suffice, they could always be sure of the resistance, that means the assistance, from the others. That infamous guarantee was given there that put it into the hands of a megalomaniac small state to start or perhaps also to refrain from a war.

For these men, however, even Poland was only a means to an end! Only a means to the end, for today one declares quite calmly, after all, that it is primarily not about Poland, rather about the German regime!

I have always warned against these men. You will remember my speeches in Saarbrücken and in Wilhelmhaven, my German folk comrades. In both these speeches, I pointed out the dangers that lie therein, that in one land men can easily arise and manage there to unabashedly preach war as a necessity: the gentlemen Churchill, Eden, Duff Cooper etc. etc... I have pointed out how dangerous that is, above all, in a land in which one never knows exactly whether these men will in a short time be the government.

One declared to me back then that would never be the case. To my knowledge, they are now government! Thus exactly that has come about, which I had predicted back then.

I decided back then, for the first time, to warn the German nation against these people, but also let no doubt exist that Germany will never again under any circumstances capitulate before the threats and even the violence of these men. One attacked my reply back then most sharply. For a certain practice has gradually evolved in these democracies, namely: In democracies, agitation for war is allowed. Foreign regimes and foreign statesmen, foreign heads of state may be attacked, defamed, insulted and soiled there, for - freedom of speech and freedom of the press prevail there! In authoritarian states, however, one may not just defend oneself against that, for discipline prevails there. Discipline! And only in undisciplined states is it accordingly permissible to agitate for war, while in disciplined states the reply to that may not be given.

That would lead in practice to it that in the undisciplined states the folks are agitated to war, while in the so-called disciplined states the folks then have no idea at all what is actually happening around them. I have hence decided in this period to slowly give the German folk knowledge of the activity of this criminal clique. And the German folk has hence been slowly put into that defensive position that I held necessary in order to not be one day surprised.

As September came, this condition had meanwhile become unsustainable. You know the development of these August days: I believe that in this last August it would have still been possible, without the British guarantee and without the agitation of these war apostles, to still reach an agreement. At a certain moment, England itself tried to bring us into direct dialog with Poland. I was ready for it. Who naturally did not come, were the Poles. I sat with my government for two days in Berlin and waited and waited. Meanwhile, I had worked out a new proposal. It is known to you. On the evening of the first day, I had it informed to the British ambassador. It was read aloud to him exactly sentence by sentence, and additional clarifications were given to him through my Foreign Minister. The first day came, and nothing happened, aside from - the Polish general mobilization, renewed terror acts and, finally, attacks against Reich territory!

Well, even in the life of folks, one should not always confuse patience with weakness. I have for decades now looked on with boundless patience at these continuous provocations. What I have myself suffered in this long period, only a few can measure. For hardly a month passed, after all, yes, often hardly a week, in which a delegation from these regions did not come to me and portrayed to me the unbearable situation of this Germandom and entreated me again and again to intervene for once, after all.

I have again and again asked to nonetheless still try it. Year after year, it went on so. But in the recent period, I have also already warned that this one day had to find an end, and I have now, after months of waiting and ever new proposals, finally

decided, as I already explained in the Reichstag, to then speak the language with Poland in which precisely the Poles believed they can speak to us, in that language, which they probably understand solely!

Even at that moment, peace could still have been saved. Friendly Italy, Il Duce, had stepped in and made a mediation offer. France was in agreement. Then England rejected even this proposal and instead believed it could send the German Reich a second ultimatum with an impossible demand.

Now the English have deceived themselves in just one thing! They once had a government in Germany in November 1918 that was kept by them, and they confuse the present-day regime with this regime kept by them and the present-day German nation with the German folk seduced and blinded back then. One no longer puts ultimatums to present-day Germany! One should note that in London!

In the last six years, I have had to put up with the unprecedented from states like Poland. But I have nonetheless sent no ultimatum. The German Reich is today not inclined and not willing to let itself be talked to in such in tone. I know, if Poland has chosen war, then it has chosen war, because it was incited into this war by those others who believe that in this war they can perhaps make their biggest world political and financial business. But it will not be their biggest business, rather it will also become their biggest disappointment!

Poland has chosen the fight, and now it has also received the fight! It has picked this fight with a light heart, because certain statesmen of the west have assured it that they possessed precise documents about the uselessness of the German army, about the inferiority of our equipment, about the bad morale of our troops, about the defeatist mood in the Reich's interior, about the discrepancy that is supposed to exist between the German folk and its leadership. One has persuaded the Poles that it would be easy thing for them to not only offer resistance, rather to throw back our armies. And then Poland also based its campaign plan on this, after all - advised by western general staff officers. Since then, 18 days have now passed. And hardly ever in history could the expression be used more rightly: "The Lord has destroyed them with man and steed and wagon!"

While I speak to you here, our troops stand along a great line Brest-Limburg and northward. And at this moment march precisely since yesterday afternoon endless columns of the beaten Polish armies from the area around Kutno as prisoners! Yesterday morning it was 20,000, yesterday evening 50,000, this morning 70,000. I do not know how big the number is now, but I know just one thing: What stands of this Polish army west of this line, will capitulate in a few days, put down their arms or be smashed!

At this moment, our grateful hearts fly to our men. The German Wehrmacht has now given these brilliant statesmen who know the conditions in the Reich the necessary pictorial instruction!

Marshal Rydz-Smigly has erred in the direction. He has landed, instead of in Berlin, in Czernowitz and with him his whole government and all those seducers who have driven the Polish folk into this insanity.

The German soldiers, however, have done their duty and obligation to the highest degree on land, at sea and in the air. Again, German infantry has proven itself as our incomparable master. Its valor, its courage and its ability have probably been often aspired to, but never reached. The new weapons of our motorized formations have proven themselves to the highest degree. The soldiers of our navy, they fulfill their duty admirably. And, overall, the German Luftwaffe watches and guards German space. Those who dreamed that they would smash Germany and who wanted to lay waste to German cities have become quiet, because they know fully well that for every bomb on a German city five or ten fall in return. They should not now act as if they conformed to this war conduct, say, out of humanitarianism. It is not humanitarianism, it is the worry about retaliation!

We want to do full justice at this moment to the Polish soldier. The Pole has fought valiantly at many places. His lower leadership made desperate attempts, his mid-level leadership was too little intelligent, his highest leadership bad, below any criticism, his organization was - Polish!

At this moment, around 300,000 Polish soldiers are in German captivity. Nearly 2,000 officers, many generals share the same lot.

But I must also mention that, next to the valor of many Polish formations admitted by us, stand the dirtiest facts that have occurred perhaps anywhere in the last decades. They are things with which I as soldier of the World War, which I fought only in the west, never had the opportunity to become acquainted. Thousands of massacred ethnic Germans, women, girls and children slaughtered in a bestial manner; countless German soldiers and officers who fell as wounded into the hands of this opponent were massacred, mutilated in a bestial manner and they eyes stabbed out. And the worst thing - this Polish government has quite openly admitted this in their own radio -: that parachuting soldiers of the Luftwaffe were murdered etc... There were really moments when one had to ask oneself: Should one under these circumstances still put any restrictions upon oneself? It has not become known to me that any of our democratic statesmen found it worth the effort to protest against these barbarities!

I have given the German Luftwaffe the order that it wages this war humanely, that means, that it wages it only against fighting troops. The Polish government and army leadership gave its civilians the order to wage this war as snipers from ambush. It was very difficult to keep oneself under control here. But I want to stress here right off: One should not again imagine in the democratic states here as well that this must be so eternally. If one wants it differently, then one can also have it differently. Here as well, my patience can find an end!

Despite this treacherous manner of war conduct, which in the last decades can find no comparison, our armies finished this opponent fast as lightning. Only an English newspaper wrote a few days ago that I had removed a Senior General from his post and was bitterly disappointed by the slowness of these operations. This article also seems to stem from that strategist who gave the Poles the strategic advice for the positioning of their armies.

So we have beaten Poland in barely 18 days and thereby brought about that condition which perhaps makes being able to one day speak with reason and calm with the representatives of this folk.

Meanwhile, Russia has seen itself motivated, on its side as well, to march into Poland for the protection of the White Russian and Ukrainian ethnic elements. We now experience that, in England and France, one sees a monstrous crime in this joint action by Germany and Russia, yes, an Englishman writes that is perfidy. And the English must know this, after all. I believe, in England one sees the perfidy in that the attempt of a joint action by democratic England with Bolshevik Russia failed, while, conversely, the attempt by National Socialist Germany with Bolshevik Russia has now succeeded. I wish to give a clarification here right off:

Russia remains what it was - Germany will remain what it is. But both regimes are clear about one thing: Neither the Russian nor the German regime wants to sacrifice even one man for the interests of the western democracies. The teaching of four war years suffices for both states and for both folks.

We know quite precisely that for a change soon the one and soon the other could have the honor of jumping into the breech for the ideals of the western democracies. We hence, both states and both folks, thank for this assignment. We plan from now on to represent our interests ourselves, and we have found that we can then represent them the best, if both great folks and states agree with each other.

And that is all the easier, after all, as, after all, the British claim of the unlimited goal setting of German foreign policy is just a lie. I am happy to now be able to refute this lie in practice to the British statesmen. These British statesmen, who continuously claimed that Germany had the intention - I believe - to dominate Europe up to the

Urals, will now, after all, be happy, if they finally learn of the limitation of German political intentions. I believe, after all, this will again take away from them one war reason, for they declare, after all, that they already had to fight against the present regime precisely because this regime pursued unlimited war goals.

Now, my gentlemen of the Greater British World Empire, Germany's goals are infinitely limited. We have talked it out with Russia, and that is, after all, in the final analysis, the closest interested neighbor. And if you have the opinion that we could get into a conflict in the process - no, we will not do that, for the German goals are of a very limited kind. England must actually welcome it, after that, that agreement has been reached between Germany and Soviet Russia, for in this agreement, after all, lies based simultaneously the removal of that nightmare that does not let the British statesmen sleep due to the world conquest tendencies of the present German regime, ft will calm them, after all, if they now learn that it is not true that Germany wants to or wanted to conquer the Ukraine. We have very limited interests. However, we are determined to represent these interests, despite any danger and against anyone. And that we do not let ourselves be toyed with in the process, the last 18 days may have proven that sufficiently.

How then the final form of the state relationships in this region look, depends probably primarily on both the lands that possess their most important life interests here. Germany proceeds here with limited, but immovable, demands, and it will achieve these demands one way or another. Germany and Russia will replace Europe's tinderbox with a situation which one will one day be able to only value as a relaxation. If now the west declares that this may not occur under any circumstances, and if, above all, in England, one declares that one is determined, if necessary, to take a stand against it with a three or four or perhaps six or eight year war, then I now want to say something here in reply:

Poland will never again be resurrected in the form of the Versailles Treaty! In the final analysis, after all, not only Germany, rather also Russia, after all, guarantee that. If England now nonetheless - it wages the fight already now - undertakes an apparent shift in the war goals, that means in reality a real covering of the genuine war goals, then I want to reply to that as well:

One says in England that this war is naturally also about Poland, but that, after all, is only secondarily significant, the more important thing, after all, is the war against the present regime in Germany. And I have the honor here, as representative of this regime, of being especially named. If one now presents this as the actual war goal, then I only want give the gentlemen in London the following reply:

It is for me the greatest honor to be accessed in this manner. Fundamentally, I have so educated the German folk that any regime which is praised by our enemies is

poison for Germany and is rejected by us. If, therefore, a German regime would receive the approval of the gentlemen Churchill, Duff Cooper or Eden etc., then this regime would just be paid and kept by these gentlemen and hence unbearable for Germany. That naturally cannot now apply to us. It is hence for us very laudable to be rejected by these gentlemen. And I can assure these gentlemen of only one thing: if they would praise me, then that would perhaps be reason for my deepest grief. I am proud to be attacked by them.

But if they believe that they can, say, thereby distance the German folk from me, then they hold this folk to be either as lacking in character as they themselves are or as dumb as they themselves are!

In both, they err! National Socialism has not educated Ger-man human beings in the last 20 years in vain. We are exclusively men who have only been attacked by their opponents in the long struggle. This has only heightened the love of our followers. It has created this indissoluble bond.

And just as the National Socialist party took upon itself this struggle through the years and finally victoriously won it, so does the National Socialist German Reich today, so does the German folk likewise take this struggle upon itself.

And the gentlemen may be convinced: they will no longer undermine the German folk through their ridiculous propaganda. The propaganda bunglers would first have to study under us for a long time, if they wished to achieve anything.

If folks shatter, then this will not be the German folk, which fights for its right, which, after all, wants no war, rather which was attacked, rather those folks will shatter, which will gradually learn to see what their seducers plan for them; which will gradually comprehend how little reason for war they had and how the sole reason for war lies only in the profits or in the political interests of a very small clique.

If one furthermore demands in England that this war will last three years, then I can only say: My pity for the French Poilu! He probably does not know what he fights for. He initially just knows that he has the honor of having to fight for at least three years. Whether the war now lasts three years, also depends in part on us, after all. - But if it should last three years, then the word “capitulation” will not stand in the third year. And in the fourth year, the word “capitulation” still will not stand, and in the fifth year likewise still not, and also not in the sixth or seventh!

The gentlemen may take notice: The generation that today leads in Germany is not the generation of Bethmann Hollweg. Today you face a Frederician Germany! The gentlemen can believe that! And the German folk will not be somehow splintered through this struggle, rather it will become firmer and firmer. If something splinters,

then it will be the states which are themselves as non-homogenous as are our plutocratic world democracies, these so-called world empires, which are themselves built only upon suppression of folks and domination of folks.

We fight here only for our bare existence! We do not let ourselves be deceived by any such limited propaganda fops that it is only about our regime: What kind of criminals would they already be! Imagine: So people exist who say: In a land where somebody governs whom we do not like – now we want to gaily wage war for three years! - Naturally, they do not wage it themselves, rather they look around in the whole world so that they find some who wage it. They then supply cannons and shells, and the others, they then supply their grenadiers, the soldiers, the human beings.

What unscrupulousness! What would one probably say, if we had ever declared: We do not like the regime that at the moment - let us say - is in France or England, consequently we now wage war.

What a bottomless unscrupulousness! Hence millions of people are now supposed to whipped into death for it. These gentlemen can calmly say that, because they themselves have never spent one hour in the field. But how long they can keep the folks in this struggle, this we will now see, after all. - About one thing, however, there can exist no doubt: The gauntlet, we pick it up, and we will fight like the opponent fights. And England has again, with lie and hypocrisy, already began the fight against women and children. One has a weapon of which one believes that one is unassailable in it, namely sea power, and now says: Because we cannot be attacked ourselves in this weapon, we are justified to wage war with this weapon against the women and children of not only our enemies, rather also of the neutrals, if necessary.

One should not deceive oneself here as well! The moment could come very quickly, when we put into use a weapon in which we cannot be attacked. Hopefully, one does not then suddenly begin to remember humanity and the impossibility of waging war against women and children. We Germans do not like that at all. We do not care for it. I have, in this campaign as well, given the order, whenever possible, to spare cities. Naturally, if a column marches across a market-square and it is attacked by planes, then it can happen that, unfortunately, another as well falls victim to it. Fundamentally, however, we upheld this principle. And in towns in which resistance was not offered by insane, crazy or criminal elements, not a single windowpane perished. In a city like Krakau, not a single bomb has fallen into the city, aside from the train station, which is a military target, and the airport. If, conversely, one in Warsaw now begins the civilian war in all streets, from all houses, then this war will naturally also spread over the whole city. We have also kept to these rules, we want to keep these rules in the future as well.

It lies totally with England to wage the blockade in forms that correspond to international law or in forms that are contrary to international law. We will totally adapt ourselves to it. About one thing, however, one should not surrender oneself to any doubt: The English goal hence no longer goes: struggle against a regime, rather a struggle against the German folk, yes, against German women and against German children. The reaction from us will be a corresponding one. And one thing will always stand firm at the end: This Germany does not capitulate! - We know quite precisely what the fate of this Germany would be. Mr. King Hall, after all, has informed us on behalf of the lofty gentlemen: a second Versailles Treaty, only still much worse. - What then can still be much worse? The first Versailles Treaty already had the intention to exterminate 20 million Germans, hence the second can at most achieve this intention.

We have meanwhile received more detailed illustrations what all is thought there, how Germany is supposed to be dismembered, how the southern German lands are supposed to be ripped off, what Poland is supposed to get back, what new states one plans to erect, which rulers upon whose heads one wants to put crowns etc... The German folk takes note of this and it will fight accordingly!

At this point, however, I now want to express my gratitude to the German folk itself. It has in the last weeks provided a really wonderful sign of not only its inner solidarity, rather it has also provided countless pieces of evidence of its really valiant orientation. Here as well, National Socialism has evoked a transformation. Perhaps many will say: The German folk is not as enthusiastic as in 1914. - Oh, it is much more enthusiastic! Only this enthusiasm is today an enthusiasm, which blazes inside, which makes the people hard. It is not the superficial hurrah patriotism, rather it is a fanatical resoluteness, it is the enthusiasm of people who know what war is, who have experienced a war, who have not entered it frivolously, but who, if this war is already forced upon them, will wage it like the old German front once waged it.

Just as I saw these numerous regiments and divisions during my visits to the front - young and old, all in the same frame of mind -, so I do also see before me the German folk. We have in the process only the one sole wish that almighty God, who, after all, has now blessed our weapons, may perhaps enlighten the other folks, that he may give them the insight how senseless this war, this struggle of the folks in itself will be, and that he perhaps brings them to reflection about the blessings of a peace that they surrendered merely because a handful of infernal war agitators and war profiteers want to involve the folks in the struggle.

I am today for the first time in this city of Danzig. It has shared the German folk's path of fate for many, many centuries. It fought along with its sons in the great war and experienced an especially bitter fate after the war. After 20 years, it now returns to the great German folk community. Much has since changed in this Reich. A former state of classes or castes has now become the German folk state. A state that was once

very largely determined and governed through the interests of individual groups has now become a Reich that belongs solely to the German folk. The ideas that dominate this Reich have been preached in this city itself for many, many years already. Yes, they have helped to breed the spirit that enabled keeping the city German, and they filled it with that faith which let it persevere until the hour of salvation and liberation.

This hour has now come!

Measure my own feeling of happiness that Providence has summoned me to achieve what all the best Germans yearned for. Measure as well my inner emotion that I can now speak to you in this room and to the whole folk in this city and in this land.

I once decided not to come to Danzig until this city again belonged to the German Reich. 1 wanted to enter here as its liberator. On this day, this joy has now fallen to me!

I see in it and I receive in it the rich reward for numerous care-ridden hours, days, weeks and months. See in me, my dear Danzigers, hence also the emissary of the German Reich, of the whole German folk, that now through me takes you into our eternal community, from which you will never again be released. Whatever difficulty may befall the individual German in the next months or even years, it will be easy in the awareness of the indissoluble community that surrounds and encompasses our whole great folk.

Danzig was German, Danzig has remained German and Danzig will be German from now on as long as there is a German folk and a German Reich exists.

Generations will come, and generations again pass. And they will all look back at the 20 years of this city's absence as a sad time in our history. But then they will not only remember the shame of the year 1918, rather they will also remember with pride the time of the German rise and the resurrection of the German Reich, that Reich that has now united all German tribes, that formed them into a unit, and for which we are now determined to stand up to the last breath.

This Germany of the German folk community of all German tribes, the Greater German Reich - Sieg Heil!

Misdirected by the English promises, the city commandant of Warsaw tries to still offer resistance despite the total hopelessness and the senseless cruelty against the population. Hence the military action against the city begins on September 25th.

On September 27th, Warsaw capitulates unconditionally.

On October 5th, the Führer visits the victorious troop formations at Warsaw and receives their march past. He issues the following proclamation to the soldiers of the eastern front:

Soldiers of the Wehrmacht in the East!

On September 1st, you assembled on my order in order to protect our Reich against the Polish attack. In exemplary comradeship of arms between army, Luftwaffe and navy, you have fulfilled the task put to you. You have fought bravely and courageously.

This day concludes a struggle that reports of the best German soldiery.

With me, the German folk thanks you.

In unshakeable trust, the nation, thanks to you, again looks upon its Wehrmacht and its leadership.

We remember our fallen, who, like the two million dead of the World War, gave their own existence so that Germany may live.

Under the flags, which fly in proud joy everything in German lands, we stand closer together than ever and tighten our helmet straps.

I know you are ready for everything in the faith in Germany.

Berlin, October 5, 1939.
Adolf Hitler.

On September 27th, the Reich Foreign Minister has left for Moscow. On September 28th, an extensive treaty is signed in Moscow. Germany and Russia declare their will for peace. A German-Soviet friendship treaty is concluded, the German Soviet-Russian economic program agreed upon.

With Poland's annihilation, the alleged English reason for war has fallen away,

On September 23rd, Mussolini delivers a speech in which he takes a position on the situation for first time:

"...One can avoid the collision (war in the west), if one gives an accounting to oneself that it is a senseless illusion to maintain, or, worse, to want to maintain, positions which history and the dynamics of the folks have condemned."

On October 1st, Italian Foreign Minister Count Ciano arrives in Berlin.

On October 6lh, the Führer speaks before the Reichstag:

Speech on October 6, 1939
in Berlin Before the Reichstag

Delegates!

Men of the German Reichstag!

In a fateful time, you, my delegates, convened here as representatives of the German folk on September 1st of this year. Back then, I had to inform you of the difficult decisions that had been forced upon us through the intransigent, provocative bearing of a state. Since then, five weeks have now passed. If I now had you summoned here again, then it happened in order to be able to give you an accounting over the past and the necessary insight into the present and, insofar as possible, into the future.

For two days, our cities, markets and villages have been decorated with the flags and symbols of the new Reich. Amidst bell chiming, the German folk celebrates a great, in its nature historically unique, victory. A state of still 36 million people, an army of around 50 infantry and cavalry divisions, had assembled against us. Their intentions were far-reaching, the confidence in the annihilation of our German Reich was considered self-evident.

Eight days after the outbreak of this struggle, however, the dice of war had fallen. Wherever Polish troops collided with German formations, they were thrown back or smashed. The daring structure of Poland's strategic offensive collapsed already in the first 48 hours of this campaign. Death defying on the attack and with incomparable march performances, our German divisions, the air and the panzer arm as well as the units of the navy, snatched the law of the initiative; it could no longer be snatched away from them at any moment.

After 14 days, the largest portions of the Polish army were either scattered, captured or surrounded. The German armies, however, had during this period covered distances and occupied spaces for whose overcoming more than 14 months were required 25 years ago. Even though a number of especially inventive newspaper strategists of the other world nonetheless sought to portray the tempo of this campaign as disappointing for Germany, we all know, after all, that there has previously hardly ever been a greater accomplishment of highest soldiery in military history. That the last remnants of the Polish armies managed to hold out in Warsaw, Modi in and in Hela up to October 1st, was not the result of their ability, rather is to be ascribed solely to our cool cleverness and our consciousness of responsibility. I forbade sacrificing more people than was unconditionally necessary, this means, I have intentionally freed the German military leadership from the opinion still prevailing in the World

War that for the sake of prestige it had to solve certain tasks under any circumstances in a set period. What is unconditionally necessary to do, happens without regard for sacrifice. But what can be avoided, is foregone. It would have been no problem for us to break the resistance of Warsaw from the 10th to 12th just like we broke it from September 25th to 27th. I just wanted, first, to spare German lives and, second, surrender myself to the - even if deceptive - hope that on the Polish side, for at least once, responsibility conscious reason instead of irresponsible lunacy could triumph.

But here in a smaller framework, precisely the same stage play repeated itself, which we had to previously experience on a larger scale. The attempt to convince the responsible Polish military leadership, insofar as such a thing existed at all, of the senselessness, yes, the lunacy of a resistance precisely in a city of a million people, failed. A generalissimo, who himself took flight in a hardly glorious manner, forced upon its land's capital a resistance that, at best, had to lead to its destruction. In the knowledge that the fortification of the fortress Warsaw alone could not withstand the German attack, one transformed the city as such into a fortress, cross-crossed it with barricades, erected battery positions on all squares, in streets and courtyards, built thousands of machinegun nests and asked the whole populace for participation in the fighting.

Simply out of pity for women and children, I then offered the rulers in Warsaw to at least allow the civilian populace to evacuate. I let an armistice take effect, secured the necessary evacuation routes, and we all waited just as futilely for an emissary as at end of August for a Polish negotiator. The proud Polish city commandant did not even honor us with a reply. I had the periods extended in any case, instructed bombers and heavy artillery to attack only clearly military objects, and repeated my demands: it remained in vain again. I thereupon offered not to bombard at all the whole city district of Praga, rather to reserve it for the civilian population in order to give it an opportunity to withdraw to there. Even this proposal was punished with Polish contempt. I endeavored a second time to then at least remove the foreign colonies from the city. This finally succeeded with many difficulties, with the Russian one only at the last minute.

I now ordered for September 25th the beginning of the attack. This same defense, which first found it beneath its dignity to even just go into the humane proposals, then, however, changed its bearing extremely fast. On the 25th, the German attack began, and on the 27th, it capitulated! It did not dare with 120,00 men, like once our German General Litzmann with far inferior forces at Brzeciny, to make a daring sortie, rather it now preferred to lay down its arms.

One should hence make no comparison here to Alkazar. Spanish heroes there heroically defied the heaviest attacks for weeks and thereby really immortalized themselves rightfully. But here, one submitted a large city to destruction in an

unscrupulous manner and then, after 48 hours, capitulated. The Polish soldier individually fought bravely at many places. His leadership, however, starting at the top, can only be characterized as irresponsible, unscrupulous and incapable.

In front of Hela as well, I had ordered not to sacrifice a single man before the most thorough preparation. There as well, the surrender occurred at the moment when the German attack was finally announced and took its start.

I make these statements, delegates, in order to preempt the historical formation of legends. For if a legend may form around anybody in this campaign, then only around the German musketeer, who, attacking and marching, added a new page to his immoral, glorious history. It can form around the heavy weapons that rushed to the aid of this infantry amidst unspeakable exertions. The black men of our armor branch are worthy of this legend, who, with daring determination, without regard for superior forces and resistance, again and again carried the attack forward anew, and, finally, the legend may glorify those death-defying pilots who, knowing that any being shot down that did kill them in the air had to mean their terrible massacre on earth after parachuting, observed with undaunted perseverance and attacked with bombs and machinegun wherever the attack was ordered or a target showed itself. The same is true for the heroes of our U-boat branch.

If a state of 36 million inhabitants and this military strength is totally destroyed in four weeks, and if in this period not a single setback came for the victor, then one can see in this not the mercy of a special good luck, rather the proof of the highest training, best leadership and most death-defying valor.

German soldiery has now again firmly placed upon its head the laurels that had been treacherously robbed from it in 1918. We all stand with deeply felt gratitude before the many unknown, nameless valiant men of our folk. They have now assembled for the first time from all the provinces of Greater Germany; the commonly shed blood, however, will bind them to each other even more strongly than any state legal construction.

The awareness of this strength of our Wehrmacht fills all of us with self-confident calm, for it has proven its strength not only on the attack, rather also in the holding of the acquired. The exemplary training of the individual officer and enlisted man has proven itself to the extreme. To it is to be ascribed this far lower number of losses, which, even if individually painful, overall nonetheless lie far below what we believed we had to expect. However, the total sum of these losses provides no picture of the severity of the individual battles; for there were regiments and divisions which, attacked by a supreme force of Polish formations or themselves on the attack colliding with them, had to make very heavy blood sacrifices.

I believe I may mention to you only two episodes from the great series of so rapidly following battles and combats as example for many. When, to cover Senior General von Reichenau's army advancing toward the Vistula, on his left flank the divisions of the army of Senior General Blaskowitz advanced against Warsaw staggered with the assignment to fend off the attack by the Polish central army against the flank of General von Reichenau's army, there suddenly occurred, at a moment when one presumed the Polish armies were generally already on the retreat toward the Vistula, their thrust into General Blaskowitz's marching army. It was a desperate attempt by the Poles to burst the ring closing around them. Four Polish divisions and some cavalry formations threw themselves at one single German active division, which, itself spread out, had to cover a line of almost 30 kilometers. Despite five and six-fold enemy superiority and despite the exhaustion of its own troops, fighting and marching for days, this division parried the attack and in part threw it back in the most bloody hand-to-hand combat and did not bend or waiver until the necessary reinforcements could be brought up. And while the enemy radio already triumphantly spread the news of the breakthrough to Lodz, the division general, his shot up arm in a splint, reported to me the course of the attack, the prevention of the breakthrough, the valiant conduct of his soldiers. Here, the losses were admittedly great.

A German militia division, along with other small formations, had the assignment to push the Poles into the northern corridor, take Gdingen and advance in the direction of the Hela peninsula. This militia division was opposed by Polish elite formations, naval troops, ensign and non-commissioned officer schools, naval artillery and cavalry. With calm certainty, this German militia division went at the solution of its assignment, which have as enemy a numerically as well far superior opponent. In a few days, however, the Pole was thrown back from position to position, 12,600 prisoners were taken, Gdingen liberated, Oxhoeft stormed and another 4,700 men pushed back and cut off on the Hela peninsula. When the prisoners marched off, a moving picture presented itself: the victors, for the large part older men, many with the decorations of the Great War on their chest, and drawing past them columns of prisoners, young people of the age of 20 to 28 years.

Since I will now announce to you the number of our dead and wounded, I ask you to stand up.

Even though this number, thanks to the training of our troops, thanks to the effect of our weapons and the leadership of our formations, constitutes hardly a twentieth of what we believed we had to fear at the beginning of this campaign, we nonetheless do not want to forget that each individual who has given his life here, made the greatest sacrifice for his folk and our Reich that a man can make for his folk.

According to the figures of September 30, 1939, which will no longer experience any significant changes, in the army, navy and Luftwaffe, including officers, there

were 10,572 men killed, 30,322 wounded and 3,404 missing. Of these missing, a portion that fell into Polish hands must unfortunately likewise be viewed as massacred and killed. To these victims of the Polish campaign belongs our gratitude, to the wounded our care, to the family members are empathy and our help.

With the fall of fortress Warsaw, Modlin and the surrender of Hela, the Polish campaign is finished. The securing of the land against wandering marauders, robber bands and individual terrorists is being carried out with determination. The result of the conflict is the annihilation of all Polish armies. The dissolution of this state was the consequence. 694,00 prisoners have started the "march to Berlin" so far. The booty in material is still totally incalculable.

Since the outbreak of the war, the German Wehrmacht simultaneously stands in the west in calm readiness and awaits the enemy. The Reich navy has fulfilled its duty in the fighting for the Westerplatte, Gdingen, Oxhoeft and Hela, in the securing of the Baltic Sea and the Bay of Heligoland, our U-boat branch, however, fights worthy of the former, unforgettable heroes.

In view of this historically unique collapse of a so-called state structure, there arises for each the question of the cause of such a process. The cradle of the Polish state stood in Versailles. From immeasurable bloody sacrifices - not only of the Poles, rather also of the Germans and Russians - was this structure born. What had previously for centuries already proven its inability for life, was artificially conceived only in 1916 by a likewise life-incapable, reality-alien German state leadership and in 1920 born no less artificially. Amidst disregard of almost half a millennium of experience, without regard for the fact of a several centuries long historical development, without respect for the ethnographic conditions and amidst disregard of all economic practicalities, a state was constructed in Versailles, which according to its whole nature sooner or later had to become the cause of the worst crises. A man, who is today unfortunately again on of our most fierce opponents, clearly foresaw this back then, Lloyd George, and just like many others, he, too warned not only during the emergence of this structure, rather also in the time of the later expansion, which was undertaken against any reason and against any right. Back then, he expressed the concern that in this state a whole series of conflict material were created, which sooner or later could provide the reasons for severe European conflicts.

Fact is that this new so-called state could not be clarified down to the present day in the structure of its nationalities. One must know the methods of Polish census taking in order to know how totally reality-alien and hence meaningless the statistics about the ethnic composition of this region were and are. In 1919, regions were claimed by the Poles in which they claimed to possess 95% majorities, for example, in East Prussia, while the plebiscites later taking place yielded a full 2% for Poland. In the state then finally created at the cost of former Russia, Austria and Germany, the non-Polish folks

were treated and suppressed, tyrannized and tortured so barbarously that any vote was now dependent on the favor of the respective Woiwoden and hence yielded the desired or demanded falsified result. Just that the doubtlessly Polish element itself received hardly any better treatment. If this structure was still addressed as a democracy by the statesmen of our western hemisphere, then this was a mockery of the foundations of their own systems. For in this land ruled a minority of aristocratic or non- aristocratic large property-owners and wealthy intellectuals, for whom their own Polish folk represented, in the most favorable case, a mass of work forces. Behind this regime hence also never stood more than 15% of the total population. To this corresponds the economic state of emergency and the cultural nadir. In the 1919, this state took over from Prussia and also from Austria provinces painstakingly developed through centuries of work, yes, in part downright blossoming. Today, 20 years later, they are about to become steppe again. The Vistula, the river whose sea mouth was always so tremendously important for the Polish government, is already today, due to lack of maintenance, unsuited for any actual commerce and according to the season either a wild river or a dried-up stream. Cities and villages have become desolate, the streets, with very few exceptions, run down and decayed. Whoever views this land for the first time for two or three weeks first gets an idea of the meaning of the expression: "Polish economy!"

Despite the unbearable conditions in this land, Germany has tried to establish a bearable relationship with it. I myself tried in the years 1933 and 1934 to find some kind of just, reasonable arrangement between our national interests and the wish for the preservation of peace with this land. There was a time, when Marshal Pilsudski still lived, in which it seemed to succeed, to be able to achieve this hope - even if to a modest degree. Unprecedented patience and even more self-control went with this. Because for many of the Polish Woiwoden, the government agreement between Germany and Poland seemed to be just a license for the only now really safe persecution and annihilation of Germandom there. In the few years until 1922, over 1 ½ million Germans had to leave their former homeland. They were chased away, often even without being able to bring along the most essential clothing. When, in the year 1918, the Olsa region fell to Poland, they proceeded with the same methods against the Czechs living there. Many thousands of them, often within a few hours, had to leave their workplaces, their residences, their apartments, their villages, hardly with them being allowed to bring along even a suitcase or box with clothing. That is how things went in this state for years, and for years we have looked on, always striving to perhaps be able, through a restriction of our state political conditions, to achieve an improvement in the lot of the unhappy Germans living there. Only it could not be overseen that every German attempt to come to an elimination of the bad conditions along this path was interpreted by the Polish rulers as weakness, perhaps even as stupidity.

Since the Polish government now went about gradually subjugating Danzig as well along a thousand paths, I tried to secure a solution through suitable proposals, which national- politically could integrate Danzig into Germany according to the will of its population without damaging Poland's economic requirements and so-called rights. If someone claims today that here it was about ultimatum demands, then this is a lie. For the solution proposals passed along to the Polish government in March 1939 were nothing else than the suggestions and ideas already discussed long in advance by me personally with Foreign Minister Beck. Only that I believed, in spring 1939, I could ease the Polish government's acceptance of these proposals in the face of its own public opinion through the offer to be able to grant it as compensation a share in the security of its independence desired by Slovakia.

If the Polish government back then now refused the acceptance of a discussion of these proposals, then there were two reasons for this.

First: The rebellious chauvinistic driving forces standing behind it did not think at all about solving the problem of Danzig, rather, quite the opposite, they already lived in the hope, later presented in text and speech, of acquiring Reich territory far beyond Danzig, that hence meant being able to attack and to conquer. And indeed, these wishes did not stop at East Prussia, no, in a flood of publications and in a continued series of addresses and speeches, of resolutions etc., beyond the annexation of East Prussia, the annexation of Pomerania, Silesia, was demanded, the Oder as the minimum border, yes, in the end, even the Elbe designated as the natural dividing line between Germany and Poland.

These demands, perhaps today sensed as crazy, but back then presented with fanatical earnest, were motivated in a downright ridiculous manner with the claim of a "Polish civilizing mission" and portrayed as justified, because fulfillable, with the reference to the strength of the Polish army. While I sent the then Polish Foreign Minister the invitation to discussions about our proposals, the Polish military magazines already wrote about the worthlessness of the German army, the cowardice of the German soldier, the inferiority of German weapons, the obvious superiority of the Polish armed forces and the certainty, in the case of a war, of beating the Germans in front of Berlin and destroying the Reich. But the man who wanted to "chop up" the German army in front of Berlin, was not just any little Polish illiterate, rather the Generalissimo Rydz-Smigly presently sitting in Romania.

The injuries and insults that Germany and the German Wehrmacht had to suffer from these military dilettantes would not have been tolerated by any other state, however, they were also not to be expected from any other folk. No French and probably also no English general would have ever allowed himself a similar verdict over the German Wehrmacht and conversely no German one over the English, French or Italian soldiers, such as we have heard and read for years, and since March 1939,

again and again from the Polish side. It took a lot of self-control to be calm in the face of this fresh, impertinent vilification despite the awareness that the German Wehrmacht would in a few weeks smash this whole ridiculous state together with its army and sweep it off the world. Just that this mental bearing, for which the leading stratum in Poland was itself responsible, formed the first reason why the Polish government rejected even debating the German proposals in a discussion.

The second reason, however, laid in the wretched guarantee promise that one gave to state that was not threatened at all, but which, now covered by two world powers, very quickly became accustomed to the conviction of being able to provoke a great power undisturbed and unpunished, yes, perhaps even hoped to thereby be able to bring out the prerequisite for the realization of its own crazy ambitions. For as soon as Poland knew itself in possession of this guarantee, there began for the minorities living there a genuine regime of terror. I do not have the task to speak of the lot of the Ukrainian or White Russian folk elements; their interests lie today with Russia. But I have the duty to talk about the lot of those hundreds of thousands of Germans, who for many hundreds of years first brought culture to this land, whom one now began to drive out, to suppress and to ravish, but who, since March 1939, were surrendered to a genuinely Satanic regime of terror. How many of them had been dragged off, where they are, cannot be ascertained even today. Towns with hundreds of German inhabitants no longer have any men. They have been completely exterminated. In others, one raped and murdered the women. Girls and boys, ravaged and killed.

In the year 1598, the Englishman Sir George Carew wrote in his diplomatic reports to the British government that the most prominent character traits of the Poles were cruelty and moral laxity. This cruelty has not changed in the past centuries since then. Just as one first butchered tens and tens of thousands of Germans and tortured them to death in a sadistic manner, so did one, during the fighting, torture and massacre captured German soldiers. This lap child of the western European democracies does not belong to the cultured nations at all. For over four years, I was in the great war in the west. On none of the fighting sides was anything similar ever done back then. But what has played out in this land in the last months and transpired in the last four weeks, is a sole indictment against the responsible doers of a so-called state structure, which lacked any ethical, historical, cultural and moral prerequisite. If even one percent of these atrocities were to be committed anywhere in the world against Englishmen, then I would like to see the outraged philistines who today, in hypocritical indignation, condemn the German or Russian action.

No! To issue to this state and this state leadership a guaran-tee, such as this happened, could only lead to the most severe misfortune. Neither the Polish government nor the small clique bearing it nor the Polish state folk as such were capable of measuring the responsibility that laid in such an obligation by half of Europe in their favor.

From this incited passion on the one hand as well as from the feeling of security, which, after all, Poland had been guaranteed under all circumstances, arose the behavior of the Polish government in the period between the months of April and August of this year. This also conditions the position toward my pacification proposals. The government rejected these proposals, because it felt itself covered or even driven on by public opinion, and public opinion covered it and drove it along this path, because it had not been taught better by the government and, above all, because it felt sufficiently secured in every act toward the outside. So it had to come to the increase of the terrible acts of terror against the German nationality, to the rejection of all solution proposals and, finally, to ever greater violations of Reich territory itself. Given such a mentality, however, it was probably also understandable that one then viewed German patience only as weakness, this means that every German concession was viewed only as proof for the possibility of further action. The warning to the Polish government to no longer annoy Danzig with ultimatum notes and, above all, to not definitively strangle the city economically, did not lead to an easing of the situation, rather, quite the opposite, to the transportation technical cutting off of the city. The warning to finally cease the eternal shootings, mistreatment and torture of ethnic Germans and to take action against these acts led to an increase of these cruel acts and to escalated proclamations and agitation speeches by the Polish Woiwoden and the military rulers. The German proposals, even at the last minute to bring about a reasonable and rational agreement, were answered with general mobilization. The German request, corresponding to the suggestion made by England itself to send an emissary, was not followed and on the second day answered with a downright ridiculous declaration.

Under these circumstances, it was clear that, given further attacks against Reich territory, German patience would now find its end. What the Poles had wrongly interpreted as weak-ness, was in reality our consciousness of responsibility and my will, if at all possible, to still come to an agreement. But since they believed this patience and this forbearance, as weakness, would allow them everything, there was nothing else left to do than to enlighten them about this error and finally strike back with the means that they themselves had made use of for years.

Under these blows, this state has now, in a few weeks, col-lapsed and been swept away. One of the most insane deeds of Versailles has thus been eliminated.

If now, in this German advance, an interest community with Russia has arisen, then this is based not only on the similarity of the problems that touch both states, rather also in the similarity of the realization that has developed in both states about the shaping of relations with each other.

I declared already in my Danzig speech that Russia is organized according to principles that are different from our own. Just that since it has been shown that Stalin

viewed no obstacle in these Russian-Soviet principles to nurturing friendly relations with states of different view, National Socialist Germany as well no longer sees any reason on its own side, say, to apply a different yardstick.

Soviet Russia is Soviet Russia; National Socialist Germany is National Socialist Germany. But one thing is certain: at the same moment in which both states reciprocally respective their diverse regimes and principles, the reason for any mutually hostile bearing falls away.

It has been proven in historically long-time frames of the past that the folks of both these largest states of Europe were the happiest, when they lived in friendship with each other. The great war that Germany and Russia once waged against each other has become the misfortune of both lands. It is understandable that especially the capitalist lands of the west today pos-sess an interest, if possible, in playing both states and their principles against each other. For this purpose and to this degree, they would view Soviet-Russia as sufficiently fit for good society to conclude useful military alliances with it. But they consider it a perfidy, if this honorable approach is rejected and, instead of it, an approach arises between both those powers that have every reason to seek in mutual peaceful cooperation, in the expansion of their economic relations, the happiness of their folks. I declared already a month ago in the Reichstag that the conclusion of the German-Russian non-aggression pact means a change in the whole of German foreign policy.

The new, meanwhile concluded, friendship and interest pact between Germany and Soviet-Russia will enable for both states not only peace, rather a fortunate permanent cooperation. Germany and Russia will together remove its threatening character from one of Europe's most dangerous spots and contribute to the welfare of the people living there and thus to European peace.

If today certain circles, each per requirement, soon wants to see Russia's defeat or Germany's defeat, then I wish to give them the following reply: One has for many years ascribed to German policy goals that could at most stem from the imagination of a high school student. At a moment, when Germany struggles for the consolidation of a living space that encompasses only a few 100,000 square kilometers, unabashed newspaper writers declare in states that themselves rule 40 million square kilometers that Germany, for its part, strives for world domination. The German-Russian agreements would have to represent a tremendous soothing for these concerned advocates of world peace, for they show them, in a presumably authentic manner, that all these claims of Germany's striving for the Urals, the Ukraine, Romania etc. were only the product of their sick Mars fantasy.

In one thing, however, Germany's decision is inalterable, namely: in our Reich's east as well to create peaceful, stable and hence tenable conditions. And precisely here,

German interests and wishes coincide with those of Soviet Russia. Both states are determined to not allow that problematic conditions arise between them, which contain within themselves the seed for domestic unrest and hence also external disruptions that could perhaps unfavorably touch upon the relationship of both great powers to each other. Germany and Russia have hence drawn a clear line of the reciprocal interest spheres with the decision to each concern itself in its part for peace and order and to prevent everything that could inflict damage on the other partner.

The goals and tasks that result from the fall of the Polish state, insofar as the German interest sphere is concerned, are roughly as follows:

First, the establishment of a Reich border that does justice to the historical, ethnographic and economic facts.

Second, the pacification of the whole region in the sense of the establishment of a tenable peace and order.

Third, the absolute guarantee of the security of not only Reich territory, rather of the whole interest zone.

Fourth, the new order, the new construction of economic life, of commerce and hence also of cultural and civilizing development.

Fifth, as the most important task, however: a new order of the ethnographic conditions, this means a resettlement of the nationalities so that, at the conclusion of the development, better lines of separation result than is the case today.

In this sense, however, it is not just about a problem that is limited to this area, rather about a task that expands much farther. For the whole east and southeast of Europe is in part filled with untenable splinters of the German nationality. Precisely in them lies a reason and a cause for continued intrastate disturbances. In the age of the nationality principle and the race idea, it is utopian to believe that these members of a highly valuable folk could simply assimilate. But it also belongs to the tasks of a far-sighted ordering of European life to carry out resettlements here, in order to eliminate in this manner at least a portion of the European conflict issues.

Germany and the Union of the Soviet Republics have agreed to mutually support each other here. The German Reich government will never allow it in the process that the then resulting Polish remnant state could become a somehow disruptive element for the Reich itself or even a source of disturbances between the German Reich and Soviet Russia. If Germany and Soviet Russia undertake this reorganizational work, then both states can rightfully point out that the attempt to solve this problem with the methods of Versailles has totally failed. And it had to fail, because this task could not

be solved at all on a theoretical basis at all or through simple decrees. Most of the statesmen who had to judge these complicated matters in Versailles did not possess the slightest historical education, yes, often not even the vaguest idea of the sense of the tasks put to them.

But they also bore no responsibility of any kind for the consequences of their action. The realization that their work might perhaps not be right after all was without significance, because, in practice, the path to a real revision did not exist. For in the Versailles Treaty, it was indeed foreseen that the possibility of such revisions had to remain open; just that, in reality, all the attempts to come to such a revision failed, and they had to fail all the more so as, after all, the League of Nations, as the authorized court, ceased to be able to claim the inner justification for the execution of such a procedure.

After first America refused to sanction the peace treaty of Versailles or even to join the League of Nations, but later other folks as well believed they could no longer reconcile their presence in this organization with the interests of their lands, this organization sank ever more into the circle of the interested parties of the Versailles dictate. It is a fact, at any rate, that none of the revisions recognized from the start as necessary were carried out by the League of Nations.

Since, in the present time, the practice has taken root that a fled government is still viewed as existent, even if it consists of just three members, insofar as they have just brought along so much gold that they do not become an economic burden to their democratic host lands, it is to be presumed, after all, that the League of Nations as well will valiantly continue to exist, even if only two nations sit together in it, yes, in the end, perhaps even only one does it! According to the law of the League, however, any revision of the Versailles clauses would still be exclusively subject to this illustrious association, this means, in other words, practically be impossible.

Now the League of Nations is not a living thing, rather al-ready today something dead. But the affected folks are not dead, rather they live, and they will achieve their life interests even if the League of Nations should be incapable of seeing, comprehending or considering them.

National Socialism is hence also not a manifestation that grew up in Germany with the malicious intent of preventing the League of Nation's revision efforts, rather a movement that came because, for 15 years, one prevented the revision of the suppression of the natural human and folk rights of a great nation. And I personally wish to forbid it, if a foreign statesman now stands up and declares I have broken my word, because I have now carried out these revisions. Quite the opposite, I have given the German folk my sacred word to eliminate the Versailles Treaty and to return to it the natural life right as great nation. The extent to which I secure this life right is a

modest one. If 46 million English in the mother land claim the right to rule 40 million square kilometers of the earth, then it is probably no injustice, if 82 million Germans demand the right to live in 800,000 square kilometers, to cultivate their cropland there and to pursue their trades. And if they further demand that one gives back to them that colonial possession that was once their own, which they took from nobody through robbery or war, rather which they acquired honestly through purchase, swap and treaties.

I furthermore tried with all the demands that I made to always first achieve the revisions along the path of negotiations. But I refuse to present the German life right to any international, unauthorized consortium as most servile request. As little as I presume that Great Britain requests the respect of its life interests, just as little should one expect the same from National Socialist Germany. But I have - I must declare this here in a solemn manner - extraordinarily limited the extent of these revisions of the Versailles peace treaty. Especially everywhere I did not see my folk's most natural life interests threatened, I myself have advised the German folk to be modest or to renounce. But these 80 million must live somewhere. For even the Versailles Treaty was not able to remove from the world one fact: it did, indeed in an unreasonable manner, dissolve states, rip apart economic regions, severe transportation lines etc.; but the folks, this means the living substance of flesh and blood, have remained, and they will remain in the future as well.

Now it cannot be contested that, since the German folk has received and found its resurrection in National Socialism, a clarification of the German relationship to the surrounding world has set in to a large degree. The uncertainty that today burdens the coexistence of folks does not stem from German demands, rather from the publicized accusations from the so-called democracies. The German demands themselves have been presented very clearly and precisely. But they have not found their fulfillment thanks to the insight of the Geneva League of Nations, rather thanks to the dynamics of the natural development. The goal of the Reich's foreign policy led by me, however, was in no case a different one than to ensure for the German folk existence and hence life, to eliminate the injustices and lunacies of a treaty that, after all, has economically destroyed not only Germany, rather dragged the victor nations exactly the same into ruin.

Furthermore, however, the whole work of the Reich's reconstruction was one aimed inwardly. In no other land in the world was hence the yearning for peace also greater than in the German folk. It is a good fortune for mankind and no misfortune that I managed, without domestic political burdening of the foreign statesmen, to peacefully eliminate the most insane impossibilities of the Versailles treaty. That this elimination may in details be painful for certain interested parties, is understandable. Just that all the greater is probably the credit that the new regulation in all cases, with the exception of the last, took place without bloodshed. The last revision of this treaty,

however, could have taken place exactly the same way along peaceful path, if the two circumstances mentioned by me had not worked out for the opposite. But the blame for that is born primarily by those who were not only not highly pleased by the previous revisions, rather who, quite the opposite, complained about seeing a new central Europe building itself along peaceful path, and indeed a central Europe that could gradually again give its inhabitants work and bread.

I have mentioned that it was a goal of the Reich government to bring clarity to the relations between us and our neighbors. And I may here now refer to facts that cannot be removed from the world by the writings of international press liars:

First, Germany has concluded non-aggression pacts with the Baltic lands. Its interests there are of a purely economic nature.

Second, already earlier, Germany has had no conflicts of interest or even points of dispute with the Nordic states, and today it has them just as little. Sweden and Norway have both been offered non-aggression pacts by Germany and only rejected them, because they themselves felt in no way threatened.

Third, Germany has drawn no consequences toward Denmark in regard to the separation of German territory undertaken in the Versailles treaty, rather, quite the opposite, established a loyal and friendly relationship with Denmark. We have raised no kind of demands for a revision, rather concluded a non-aggression pact with Denmark. The relationship with this state is hence directed at an inalterable loyal and friendly cooperation.

Fourth, Holland: The new Reich has sought to continue the traditional friendship with Holland, it has adopted no difference between both states and has created no new differences.

Fifth, Belgium: I tried immediately after the assumption of state business to shape the relationship to Belgium more friendly. I have renounced any revision, any revision wish. The Reich has placed no demands that would have been somehow suited to be felt as a threat in Belgium.

Sixth, Switzerland: Germany takes the same stance toward Switzerland. The Reich government has never given even the slightest cause for a doubt of its wish for a loyal shaping of the relations between both lands. Furthermore, it has never itself brought a complaint about the relationship between both lands.

Seventh, I informed Yugoslavia immediately after the accomplished annexation that the border with this state as well is from now an inalterable for Germany and that we only wish to live in peace and friendship with it.

Eighth, A many years long tradition bond of close and hearty friendship connects us to Hungary. Here, too, the borders are inalterable.

Ninth, Slovakia itself directed the wish for help to Germany on the occasion of its emergence. Its independence is acknowledged by the Reich and not impugned.

But not only with these states has Germany clarified and regulated the relations, still in part burdened by the Versailles treaty, rather also with the great powers.

In union with II Duce, I have produced a change in the Reich's relationship with Italy. The borders existing between both states have been solemnly acknowledged by both empires as inalterable. Any possibility of opposing interests of territorial nature was eliminated. The former opponents of the World War have meanwhile become sincere friends.

It did not stop with a normalization of relations, rather this led in the following period to the conclusion of an ideologically and politically based close pact, which has had the effect of a strong element of European cooperation.

But I have, above all, undertaken to decontaminate the relationship with France and to make it bearable for both nations. I have presented here in the utmost clarity the German demands, and I have never deviated from these demands. The return of the Saar region was the sole demand that I viewed as the unconditional prerequisite for a German-French reconciliation. After France itself loyally solved this problem, any further German demand on France fell away; no such demand still exists, and such a demand will also never be raised. This means: I have rejected even just bringing to discussion the problem of Alsace-Lorraine - not because I would have been compelled to it, rather because this matter is no problem at all that could ever stand between the German-French relationship. I have accepted the decision of the year 1919 and rejected sooner or later again going to a bloody war for a question that stands in no relationship to the German life necessities, but is indeed suited to plunge every second generation into a wretched conflict. France knows this. It is impossible that whatever French statesman stands up and declares I had ever put a demand to France whose fulfillment would have been incompatible with French honor or with French interests.

But I have indeed put to France, instead of a demand, always just one wish, to bury the old hostility forever and to let both nations with their great historical past to find the path to each other. I have done everything in order to exterminate in the German folk the idea of an inalterable traditional hostility and in its place to implant respect for the great accomplishments of the French folk, of its history, just like every German soldier has the greatest respect for the accomplishments of the French armed forces.

No lesser were my efforts for a German-English reconciliation, yes, beyond that, for a German-English friendship. Never and at no point have I really opposed British interests. Unfortunately, only all too often did I have to defend myself against English inventions into German interests, even where they did not touch England in the least. I have downright felt it a goal of my life to bring both folks closer to each other, not only rationally, rather also emotionally. If my effort failed, then only because there existed a downright shocking hostility toward me personally in a portion of the British statesmen and journalists, who made no secret of it that it was their sole goal, for reasons that are inexplicable for us, to again take up the fight against Germany at the first opportunity offering itself. The less objective reasons these men have for their plan, the more they try to fake the motivation for their action with empty slogans and claims. But I still believe even today that a real pacification in Europe and in the world can only exist, if Germany and England reconcile. From this conviction, I have very often taken the path toward reconciliation. If this, in the end, nonetheless did not lead to the desired result, then it was really not my fault.

As final thing, I have now tried to normalize the Reich's relations with Soviet Russia and finally put them on a friendly basis. Thanks to Stalin's same thinking, this has now also succeeded. With this state as well, a permanent friendly relationship has now been established, whose effect will be beneficial for both folks.

So overall, the revision of the Versailles treaty carried out by me has not created chaos in Europe, rather, quite the opposite, the prerequisite for clear, stable and, above all, bearable conditions. And only the person who hates this order of European conditions and desires disorder, can be an enemy of these actions.

But if one believes, with hypocritical bearing, to have to reject the methods through which a bearable order has arisen in the central European region, then I can only reply that, in the final analysis, not so much the method is decisive as the practical success.

Before my assumption to power, Europe was sinking, and indeed, not only Germany, rather also the surrounding states, in the distress of cheerless unemployment. Production fell, and hence people's consumption invariably also decreased. The living standard sank, distress and misery were the results. None of the criticizing foreign statesmen can dispute that, not only in the old Reich, rather also in all regions united with it, it has been possible to eliminate these symptoms of decay, and indeed, under the most difficult circumstances. It has hence been proven that this central European region is capable of life only if united and that the person who divides it commits a crime against millions of people. To have now eliminated this crime is not a breach of faith, rather my honor, my pride and a great historical achievement. Neither the German folk nor I took an oath to the treaty of Versailles, rather I only took an oath to the well-being of my folk, whose agent I am, and to the

well-being of those whom fate has put in our living space and thereby indissolubly bound to our own well-being. To secure for all of them existence and thus life, is my sole care. The attempt to criticize, to judge or to reject my action from the rostrum of an international obstinacy, is un-historical and leaves me personally ice cold. The German folk has summoned me through its trust and is only strengthened in this stance toward me through any such attempt of a foreign criticism or intervention.

Furthermore, I first disseminated proposals before each individual revision. I tried, along the path of negotiations, to achieve and secure the unconditionally necessary. I also succeeded in this in a series of cases. In other cases, however, my will for negotiation, and often also the small extent of my demands, the modesty of my proposals, was, unfortunately, interpreted as weakness and hence rejected. This could hurt nobody more than me myself. Just that there exist in the life of folks necessities which, if they do not find their solution along peaceful path, must then achieve their realization through strength. This may be regrettable; but this is true just as much for the life of the individual citizens as for the life of the community.

The principle that the largest interest common to all cannot be harmed by the obstinacy, or even the malicious will, of individuals and individual communities, is irrefutably correct.

I presented the most moderate proposals to Poland as well. They did not fall to mere rejection, rather, quite the opposite, they led to the general mobilization of this state with a justification that makes perfectly clear that one believed to see precisely in the modesty of my proposals the confirmation for my weakness, yes, in the end, even for my fear.

Actually, this experience would have to make one reluctant to still present at all reasonable and moderate proposals. These days as well, I already read in certain newspapers that any attempt for a peaceful arrangement of the relationship between Germany on the one side and England and France on the other is out of the question, and that any proposal in this direction only proves that, filled with fear, I see before me Germany's collapse, hence that I make it only out of fear or from a bad conscience.

If I now nonetheless announce my thoughts on this problem, then I hence take it upon myself of being seen in the eyes of these people as coward or as desperate. I can also do this, because the verdict over me in history, thank God, will not one day be written by these pitiful scribblers, rather stands from through my life work and because it is rather indifferent to me, which judgement I now receive at the moment from these people. My prestige is great enough in order to allow myself such a thing. For whether I now announce my following thoughts really out of fear or desperation, that, after all, the later course of things will prove in any case. Today I can, at most, regret that the people who, in their thirst for blood, cannot see enough war,

unfortunately are not where the war is really fought out, and even already earlier were not where there was shooting. I understand very well that there are interested parties who earn more from war than from peace, and I further understand that, for a certain species of international journalists, it is more interesting to report about war than about the actions or even the cultural creations of peace, which they cannot gauge and cannot comprehend; and, finally, it is clear to me that a certain Jewish-international capitalism and journalism does not sympathize with the folks at all, whose interest they pretend to represent, rather as Herostratus of human society see the greatest success of their life in arson.

But I also believe, for yet another reason, to have to raise my voice here. If I today read certain international press organs or hear the speeches of various hot-headed war glorifiers, then I believe I speak and reply in the name of those who must provide the living substance for the intellectual activity of these war goal setters - that living substance to which I, as unknown soldier, also belonged for four years in the Great War. The effect is splendid, if a statesman or journalist stands up and proclaims in glowing words the necessity of the elimination of the regime in another country in the name of democracy or of something similar. The execution of this glorious slogan, however, then looks quite different. Today newspaper articles are being written that can be sure of the enthusiastic agreement of a genteel reading public. The realization of the demands contained in them, however, has a much less enthusiastic effect. I do not want to say anything here about the judgment or ability of these people. But whatever they may write: the real nature of such a conflict is not touched by it. Before the Polish campaign, these scribblers wrote the German infantry was perhaps not bad, just the armored branch - the motorized formations over all - were inferior and would simply fail in any action. - Now, after Poland's destruction, the same people write with straight face that the Polish armies collapsed only because of the German panzers and the rest of the Reich's motorization, but that, in comparison, the German infantry, in a downright amazing manner, had deteriorated and came up short even in the clash with the Poles. Such an author writes this literally - one rightly sees therein a favorable symptom for the conduct of the war in the west, and the French soldier will notice this.

I believe that as well, insofar as he really faces it and can still remember it later. He will then presumably take this military soothsayer by the ears. But, unfortunately, that will also be impossible again, because these people, after all, never test the competence or inferiority of German infantry personally on the battlefield at all, rather only describe it in their editorial offices. Six weeks - what then! - fourteen days of drum-fire, and the gentlemen war propagandists would quickly come to a different view. They also talk about necessary world political events, but they do not know the military course of things. Just that I know it all the better, and hence I also consider it my duty to speak here, even at the risk that the war agitators again see in this my speech just an expression of my fear and a symptom for the degree of my desperation.

Why then should this war take place? For Poland's restoration? The Poland of the Versailles treaty will never rise again! The two greatest states on earth guarantee that. The final shaping of this region, the question of the restoration of a Polish state, are problems that are not solved through war in the west, rather exclusively by Russia in one case and by Germany in the other. Furthermore, any elimination of both these powers in the regions in question would not produce a new state, rather total chaos. The problems that are to be solved there will be solved neither at the conference table nor in editorial offices, rather in decades long work. It simply does not suffice that a few statesmen, who, in the final analysis, are disinterested in the fate of the affected people, come together and issue decrees, rather it is necessary that somebody who is himself involved in the life of these regions takes over the work for the restoration of a really permanent condition. The ability of the western democracies for the creation of such orderly conditions, leastwise in the recent period, has been proven by nothing. The example of Palestine shows how it would be better to occupy oneself with the existing problems and to rationally solve them than to concern oneself with problems that lie within the life and interest sphere of other folks and can be better mastered by them. At any rate, Germany has not only secured peace and order in its protectorate Bohemia and Moravia, rather, above all, also laid the foundation for a new economic blossoming and for ever more close agreement between both nations. England will still have very much to do before it will be able to point to similar results in its Palestinian protectorate.

One furthermore knows quite precisely that it would be an absurdity to destroy millions of human lives and ruin hundreds of billions in assets in order, say, to again set up a structure that, already at its first emergence, was designated a miscarriage by all non-Poles. So what else should be the reason? Has Germany put any demand to England that, say, threatens the British World Empire or puts its existence into question? No, quite the opposite! Neither to France nor to England has Germany directed any such demand. But if this war should really only be waged in order to give Germany a new regime, this means, in order to again smash the present Reich and consequently create a new Versailles, then millions of people will be pointlessly sacrificed, for neither will the German Reich break nor will a second Versailles emerge!

But even if, after a three or five- or eight-year war, that should succeed, then this second Versailles would for the following period already again become a source for new conflicts. In any case, however, a regulation of the problems of the world without consideration of the life interests of its strongest folks would, in five or ten years, end no differently at all than this attempt ended 20 years ago today. No, this war in the west regulates no problem at all, be it the ruined finances of a few armaments' industrialists and newspaper owners or other international war profiteers.

Two problems today stand to discussion:

First, the regulation of the questions arising from Poland's disintegration and

second, the problem of the elimination of those international concerns that politically and economically hamper the life of the folks.

What then are the goals of the Reich government in regard to the ordering of the conditions in this region, which west of the German Soviet Russian demarcation line is recognized as German sphere influence?

First, the creation of a Reich border, which - as already emphasized - corresponds to the historical, ethnographic and economic facts,

second, the arranging of the whole living space according to nationalities, this means a solution of those minority questions that touch not only this region, rather, beyond that, affect almost all southern and southeastern European states,

third, in the connection, the attempt of an arranging and regulation of the Jewish problem,

fourth, the rebuilding of commercial and economic life for the benefit of all people living in this region,

fifth, the guarantee of the security of this whole region and

sixth, the creation of a Polish state that, in its construction and its leadership, offers a guarantee that neither a new fire against the German Reich arises nor an intrigue central against Germany and Russia is formed.

Beyond that, it must immediately be attempted to eliminate the effects of the war, or at least to mitigate them, this means soothing the excessive suffering present through practical aid activity.

These tasks - as already emphasized - can indeed be dis-cussed at a conference table, but never solved. If Europe is at all concerned about calm and peace, then the European states would have to be grateful that Russia and Germany are ready to now turn this trouble spot into a zone of peaceful development, that both lands assume responsibility and hence also make sacrifices. For the German Reich, this task, since it cannot be taken imperialistically, means an activity for 50 or 100 years. The justification for this German work lies in the political organization of the region as well as in the economic opening up. In the final analysis, however, both benefit all of Europe.

The second, and, in my eyes, far more important, task, however, is the creation of not only the conviction, rather also of the feelings, of a European security. Necessary for this it that

first, an unconditional clarity about the goals of foreign policy in the European states sets in. Insofar as Germany is concerned, the Reich government is ready to

provide a complete and total clarity about its foreign political intentions. In the process, it puts at the top of this declaration the statement that the Versailles treaty is viewed by it as no longer existing, this means that the German Reich government, and with it the whole German folk, sees no reason for any further revision outside of the demand for colonial possession due to and corresponding to the Reich, hence, above all, the return of the German colonies.

This demand for colonies is justified not only in historical legal claim, rather, above all, in the elementary legal claim to a participation in the earth's raw material sources. This demand is not an ultimatum, and it is not a demand behind which force stands, rather a demand of political justice and of economic common sense.

Second, the demand for a real blossoming of the international economy, in connection with the increase of trade and commerce, is preconditioned by the repair of the domestic economies, this means of production inside the individual states. To ease the exchange of this production, however, one must come to a new arrangement of the markets and to a permanent regulation of the currencies in order to gradually dismantle the obstacles to free trade.

Third, the most important prerequisite, however, for an economic blossoming of the European and extra-European economy is the creation of an unconditionally guaranteed peace and of a feeling of security for the individual folks. This security will be made possible not only through the final sanctioning of the European status, rather, above all, through the reduction of armaments to a reasonable, and also economically bearable, magnitude. To this necessary feeling of security belongs, above all, however, a clarification of the utilization and the range of utilization of certain modern weapons, which, in their effect, are suited to strike at any time into the heart of each individual folk, and which will hence leave behind an enduring feeling of insecurity. I have already, in my earlier Reichstag speeches, made proposals in this direction. Back then - probably already because they came from me -, they fell to rejection. But I believe that the feeling of a national security in Europe will only arrive, if in this area, through clear international and binding obligations, an extensive fixing of the concept of allowed and not allowed weapons utilization takes place.

Just as the Geneva Convention once managed, leastwise among civilized states, to prohibit the killing of wounded, the mistreatment of prisoners, combat against non-belligerents etc., and just as it managed to help this ban, over the course of time, to general adherence, so must it manage to so set down the use of air force, the use of gas etc., of the U-boat, but also the concept of contraband, so that war loses the terrible character of a fight against women and children and against non-belligerents overall. The horror of certain actions will then, on its own, lead to the elimination of the weapons then become superfluous. I have endeavored, already in this war with

Poland, to let the Luftwaffe be used only against so-called military objects, this means only put in an appearance, if active resistance is offered at a point.

But it must be possible, with reference to the Red Cross, to find a fundamental, commonly valid international regulation. Only under such preconditions, especially in our densely populated continent, will a peace arrive, which then, freed of mistrust and of fear, can provide the prerequisite for a real blossoming of economic life as well. I believe there is no responsible European statesman who does not, in the bottom of heart, wish for his folk's blossoming. A realization of this dream, however, is conceivable only in the framework of a general cooperation of the nations of this continent. To ensure this cooperation can hence only be the goal of every man really wrestling for the future of his own folk, too.

In order to reach this great goal, the great nations on this continent will have to come together in order to work out, accept and guarantee in an extensive regulation a statute that gives all of them the feeling of security, of calm and hence of peace. It is impossible that such a conference convenes without the most thorough preliminary work, this means without the clarification of the individual points and, above all, without preparatory work. But it is just as impossible that such a conference, which is supposed to decide the fate of precisely this continent for decades, is active under the roar of canons or also just under the pressure of mobilized armies. But if, sooner or later, this problem must be solved nonetheless, then it would be more reasonable to get at this solution before first millions of people have pointlessly bled to death and billions in assets have been destroyed.

The preservation of the present condition in the west is un-thinkable. Each day will soon demand increasing sacrifices. Perhaps France will then one day, for the first time, bombard Saarbrücken. German artillery, for its part, will crush Mülhausen as revenge. France will then itself again, as revenge, put Karlsruhe under the fire of cannons, and Germany again Straßburg. Then the French artillery will shoot at Freiburg and the German at Kolmar or Schlettstadt. One will then deploy farther reaching guns, and what finally cannot be reached by the long-range guns, the pilots will destroy. And it will be very interesting for a certain international journalism and very useful for the manufacturers of planes, of weapons, of munitions etc., but horrible for the victims.

And this war of annihilation will not just limit itself to the mainland. No, it will stretch far out over the sea. Today there are no longer any islands.

And the European national fortune will burst in shells and folk energy will bleed to death on the battlefields. One day, however, there will nonetheless again be a border between Germany and France. Only that on it, then, instead of blossoming cites, fields of rubble and endless cemeteries will stretch.

Mr. Churchill and his comrades may now calmly interpret this my view as weakness or as cowardice. I do not have to deal with their opinions. I only provide this explanation, because I naturally wish to spare my folk as well this suffering. But if the view of Mr. Churchill and his entourage should remain successful, then this explanation will simply have been my last one. We will then fight!

Neither force of arms nor time will subdue Germany. A November 1918 will never again repeat itself in German history. The hope for a disintegration of our folk, however, is childish. Mr. Churchill may be of the conviction that Great Britain will triumph. Not for a second do 1 doubt that Germany triumphs!

Fate will decide who is right. Only one thing is sure: never yet in world history have their been two victors, but often only defeated. Already in the last war, this seems to me to have been the case.

May those folks and their leaders now speak, who are of the same view, and may those push back my hand, who believe they must see war as the better solution. As Führer of the German folk and as chancellor of the Reich, I can only thank the Lord at this moment that he has so wonderfully blessed us in the first difficult fight for our right, and ask him to let us and all others find the right path so that not only the German folk, rather all of Europe, is allotted a new good fortune of peace.

The Russian and Italian voices for peace find only isolated echo on the opposing side.

On the occasion of the opening of the War Winter Aid Work 1939/40, the Führer, in his speech of October 10th, once more goes into the overall European situation.

Speech on October 10,1939 in Berlin at the Opening of the War Winter Aid Work 1939/40

German folk comrades!

The Winter Aid Work belongs to those National Socialist institutions, which already today are viewed as something almost self-evident. One has already become accustomed to it that through this aid activity many cares are lifted from public welfare, that many institutions of the state, of the provinces and of the municipalities are unburdened. And even the folk comrade himself has already gradually become accustomed, more or less voluntarily willingly, to do his share; the great mass willingly, a very tiny fragment perhaps often just to escape looking bad. But that, after all, is also all the same, why one gives, decisive is that he gives.

The idea of this institution was to call for folkish self-help. Other paths would have also been open to us, after all. Instead of the appeal to the willingness for sacrifice of the folk, it could have also been the appeal to the taxpayer, after all.

Intentionally and with deliberation, we did not take this path, for we wanted to educate precisely the German folk, after all, to grasp the nature of the community in shared sacrifice as well, to recognize the duties that are placed on the community and to do justice to these duties, and indeed without the tax collector standing behind it, rather through free will.

But we also wanted to give to the individual through the appeal, which, after all, is necessarily tied to it, an enduring insight into the real distress of many folk comrades. It should be achieved that, through the ongoing alerting that is tied to the collections, the individual remains aware that good fortune and prosperity are not, and probably also cannot be, shared by all folk comrades, that there exists an infinite many to help, that infinitely much must be helped.

Finally, however, this organization has itself mobilized a gigantic army of helpers, who, for their part, likewise gain insight into the distress of large circles of our folk, but also into the possibilities to counter this distress.

Distress has existed in every age. It is perhaps a relative concept at all. Just a few days ago, I still saw regions in which the average of life lies far beneath what would be viewed as deepest distress here with us in Germany. How well off our folk is, thanks to our great community work, is perhaps known least by those who do not possess the possibility to cast a gaze beyond this community. One thing is sure: distress has always existed, distress still exists and it will always exist. It is to be judged relatively. And in every age, people have the obligation to steer this distress, to oppose it, to mitigate it

and hence to help. The voluntary nature of the sacrifice thereby provides the opportunity so that the individual evaluates himself better than any state intervention could do it. It is left to the individual, after all, to himself evaluate his obligation toward the commonality, but then also to fulfill it.

We have created very much in this connection with this great social institution: one pot Sunday, the day of national solidarity etc... Everything somehow also a means for another purpose, namely for the purpose to often awaken quite distinctly in the German folk the consciousness of belonging together, to wipe away class differences. We are of the conviction that all this cannot succeed at once. But if we survey the results of this whole social education in the last years, then nobody can dispute that the path taken has been taken not only successfully, rather that it was also right. We have achieved such great social successes that we can perhaps see precisely in this a reason for a certain disdain in another world, which is terrified by the idea that the socialist national principles of our Reich could have a recruiting effect beyond our borders and perhaps shake awake the conscience in this regard in other lands as well.

Even if the activity of our collectors often seems perhaps somewhat unpleasant for the people approached, how uncomfortable, on the other hand, is the collector's activity and how much more bearable to be annoyed perhaps two or three times by the request to donate something, than perhaps a thousand times to be dismissed in one's request to receive something. In the one case, a minor inconvenience, in the other case, a continuous sacrifice of numerous free hours in the service of the folk community.

Now fate has compelled us to take up arms in the defense of the Reich. In a few weeks, the state that believed most impertinently it was able to threaten German interests has been beaten down, thanks to a historically unique military achievement, thanks to the valiant heroism of our soldiers, thanks to our splendid leadership. What the future brings, we do not know. Only about one thing are we clear: No power on earth can once more force down this Germany! They will neither militarily defeat us nor will they ruin us economically nor will they exhaust us psychologically. Under no circumstances will they any longer experience any kind of German capitulation!

I have given expression to our readiness for peace. Germany has no war reason against the western opponents at all. They started the war for ridiculous purposes. Germany, however, is determined, in the event of the rejection of this readiness on our part, to the take up the struggle and then fight it through one way or another. Neither the terror of the moment nor the proclamation of the duration of struggle will be able to make us tired or even faint-hearted. Before us stands our folk's eternal life. As long as it may take to help this life to burst forth, it cannot shake us, it cannot dismay us, in no case can it bring us to desperation, quite the opposite: whatever the other world wants, it may get it!

I once took a very difficult path in order to again lead Germany up out of the destruction caused by the Versailles treaty. Since then, precisely 20 years have now passed. The Reich stands mightier than ever before. The path before us can be no more difficult that the path behind us was. If we never despaired to walk the path from the past to the present, then we will despair even much less to stride the path from now into the future. Precisely in this path and in the following of this path, we will be strengthened by the now achieved community of the German folk. And the time that now stands before us will really help to strengthen, to deepen the National Socialist folk community. It will only speed up the process of this folk evolution, of this social folk evolution. The war winter that stands before us will really find us willing to make every sacrifice that is necessary in order to lighten for our folk this struggle for existence. The War Winter Aid Work hence simultaneously becomes an aid work for the Red Cross, for this time the Red Cross will collect not only for itself, rather it is a component of the Winter Aid Work. And the Winter Aid Work will from itself also assist the Red Cross with its donations.

If I just utter these words, then we all become immediately aware how small the sacrifices are that are demanded from the individual, compared to the sacrifices that many of our folk comrades at the front had to make, and, if the malicious ill of our opponents so desires, will have to make in the future. Hence from now on, nobody should think about the size of his sacrifice, rather each should think only about the size of our shared sacrifice and about the size of the sacrifice of those who had to give their lives for their folk, have to give and will have to give. Compared to this sacrifice, all the sacrifices at home are nothing at all. But they can help to strengthen in our folk the awareness of an indissoluble community. And that is the decisive thing. One way or another, a new folk body, a new, stronger community must simultaneously emerge from the great struggle of National Socialist Germany for the freedom of our folk and for its future. And the coming time can only help to create and solidify this community.

Hence, in this Winter Aid Work, everything must be surpassed that was achieved before. Perhaps this will also be a reply to the stupidity of the rest of the world, which believes it can inwardly dissolve the German folk. We want to show them what kind of effect these stupid attempts produce. We want to show them how, through them, the German folk is made more firm and hard and forged together. We want to thereby perhaps also best drive out of them hopes, hopes that consist of thinking one can talk to the inner German state as one likes to do to anybody out there. We want to teach them respect for the inner state of other folks.

What we must endure as community - the world can be convinced of this - we will bear. Hopefully, others can bear it exactly the same as we will bear it!

Only then will the time really come in which National Socialism will develop its whole folk-shaping, folk-forming and folkbearing energy. From war did we once

come, from war has our world of ideas emerged, and in war, if necessary, it will now prove itself. The decision about that, after all, now no longer lies with us, rather with the rest of the world. With us lies only the fierce decision to take the decision upon ourselves, one way or another, and then, however, to fight through to the final consequence.

So precisely the Winter Aid Work must help to make the German folk community harder than ever; a community for struggle, a community for victory and, in the end, then a community for peace.

The more determined and the harder we all take upon our-selves the sacrifices, which this war may bring with it, the more surely will we win the peace that our folk needs. For one day, this is also my conviction, the time of uncertainly must come to an end. It must be possible that the German folk, too, without being constantly bothered by the others, shapes inside its living space its life according to its wish, its will and according to its views, and that the German folk, too, receives that share in the goods of the world that it can claim and will claim on the basis of its number and its worth.

In this sense, I open the Winter Aid Work 1939/40, ask the helpers to work for it just as I ask the German folk to now prove itself worthy of its heroes of the past in the homeland as well and to make up for what the homeland in the years 1914-1918 transgressed against the German folk.

On October 10, the French Minister-President Daladier, in a radio address, takes up the Führer's speech.

On October 12lh, the English Minister-President Chamberlain, in his declaration in the House of Commons, thwarts all further possibilities for peace.

On October 24th, the Reich Foreign Minister speaks in Danzig and firmly sets down English responsibility for the further course of things.

On November 6th, the peace step by the king of Belgium and the queen of the Netherlands comes. It is rejected by the English and French government.

On November 8th, the Führer speaks on the occasion of the meeting taking place by the Old Fighters of the NSDAP in remembrance of November 9, 1923 in the Munich Bürgerbräukeller.

Speech on November 8, 1939 in Munich Before the Old Guard

Party comrades!

My German folk comrades!

I have come to you for a few hours in order, in your midst, to again experience the memory of a day which for us, for the movement and this for the whole German folk, was of great importance.

It was a difficult decision, which I made back then and with a group of comrades also put into execution, a difficult decision, however, which had to be dared. The apparent failure has nonetheless become the birth of the great National Socialist liberation movement, for following this failure came, after all, that famous trial, which enabled us to stand up for the first time before the whole public for our view, for our goals and for our decision, to assume responsibility and hence to make the great masses of our folk familiar with our ideas.

If, in the four years from the year 1919 to 1923, the National Socialist movement could grow so much that it managed to still mobilize the whole nation in a shaking up event, then this was to be ascribed to the general situation in which Germany found itself. A terrible catastrophe had befallen our folk and our land. After an almost 45 year long peace, one had driven Germany into war back then. Much was said about war guilt. Today we know quite precisely - and already knew it back then - that actually only one blame could be assigned to the Reich governments before 1914 and up until then, namely the blame, first, not to have done enough of what had to be done and could have been done in the service of national strengthening, and second, that it allowed numerous favorable moments to pass, but then, at the most unfavorable one, it had to let itself be drawn into war. And there was no doubt that years earlier, if it had really wanted war, that years earlier there would have been better opportunities. The same forces which are today our opponents already back then incited war against the old Germany – and with the same slogans and the same lies. We all - insofar as we were combatants back then - know that the English and French did not defeat us on the field. It required a great lie in order to steal the weapons from our folk. Today there is one or the other, who perhaps in a foreign country is amazed at my great self-confidence. I can only give as reply that I have won this self-confidence myself in the field. In the four years, I never had for even just a moment the conviction or even the crushing awareness that any opponent could be superior to us. Neither Frenchmen nor Englishmen had summoned up more courage, more strength in the face of death, than the German soldier!

What brought Germany down back then, were the lies of our opponents. They were the lies of the same men who also lie again today, because, after all, they are the same war mongers, for Mr. Churchill and comrades, after all, already back then participated in the war. That far, things have remained the same, after all. Only something has changed: Back then, Mr. Churchill agitated for war, and there was a weak government in Germany. Today, Mr. Churchill again agitates for war, but there is now a different government in Germany! For the government of today, after all, faced the English back then. And it hence does not have more respect than one needs to have for any other soldier, but also not the slightest feeling of inferiority, rather, quite the opposite, the feeling of superiority.

The lies were the same as today. - With what did England go to war back then? One said back then: First, Great Britain fights for the freedom of the little nations. We then later saw how England treated the freedom of these little nations, how little, above all, these so-called statesmen concerned them-selves with the freedom of these little nations, how they sup-pressed minorities, mistreated folks and they also do this today, after all, insofar as it corresponds to their goals and fits their program. Then one said: England fights for justice! England, however, had for 300 years already fought for justice and received as reward for it from the dear Lord roughly 40 million square kilometers on earth and, furthermore, 480 million people to rule over. So does God reward the folks who fight "only for justice"! Especially the folks, who fight for the "self- determination of the others"; for England, after all, back then also fought for the right of self-determination. One declared: The British soldier does not go to the field for any selfish interests at all. He fights for the right of self-determination of the folks. - One could have then expected that immediately after the war England, leastwise in its own world empire, England would proclaim self-determination. But one spared oneself that or one saved oneself for the next war!

And then England fought back then for "civilization", but that exists only in England. Only in the English mining regions does civilization exist, only in the English slums does civilization exist, in Whitechapel and in the other quarters of mass misery and of decay!

And furthermore, back then - and also since then - England goes to the field for "humanity". But one first loaded humanity into shells as gunpowder. But one may also fight with poor weapons, after all, if one just fights for a noble, lofty goal. And England has always done that!

And one went a step farther. One declared back then: We English do not fight against the German folk at all, quite the opposite, the German folk, we English love it; we, the Chur-chills, the Chamberlains etc., we do not fight against the Ger-man folk. We all only fight against the regime suppressing the German folk. For we English have only one task: to free Germany from its regime in order to make the German folk

happy. And for this purpose, we English fight above all for it that the German folk is relieved of the burdens of its militarism. It should become free, it could go so far that it no longer needs to bear any weapons. And if it should ever itself have a wish, then we want to go a step farther. We want to prevent it from ever again being able to bear weapons, in order to make it completely free, the German folk. And one declared it is furthermore a mean trick, if one claims of us English that we had, say, anything against German commerce in the whole world. Quite the opposite, we want to secure freedom of trade in the whole world. We hence also have nothing against the German merchant marine. That is also a lie - declared Mr. Churchill back then. And one further declared that it is an even more infamous defamation, if, say, one wants to ascribe to the English as war goal that they had designs on the German colonies, a mean trick to even just think such a thing. So did one declare 1914, 1915, 1916, 1917 and even still in 1918.

One went a step farther. One did not fight for victory at all, one fought for a peace of agreement, a peace of reconciliation, above all, for a peace of equality of rights. And this peace, it should then enable it that in the future one would be able to renounce armaments at all. For one also fought against war, after all. England waged war - so did one say - in order to finally eradicate war. England has always only waged war, after all, in order to eradicate war, namely the war of those upon whom war is waged, the resistance of those attacked. One hence declared there could be no talk that, say, it was the goal of British war policy to fetch war reparations from the German folk, rather, quite the opposite, one strove for a peace without reparations, and as crowning of this peace then, after a general disarmament, an eternal league of nations.

And then the great second Woodrow Wilson summed all that up in 14 points and then later supplemented it with another three points, those famous points, in which we were assured we first did not have to fear being treated, say, unfairly, that we had to lay down our arms only in trust in the word of England and of the other allies, in order to then be accepted into a genuine community of folks, in which there would no longer be victors and vanquished, in which only right should rule. One promised us that only then would the colonies be fairly distributed, that all legal claims and justified claims to colonies would find their consideration etc... And all that was then supposed to find its final crowning in the League of Nations, the final consecration, the league of all nations. And war was thereby then supposed to be definitively eliminated from this world, and now an eternal peace should come.

And that was all understood, after all, from the English standpoint. If somebody has conquered 40 million square kilometers with approximately 46 million people, if, with these 46 million people, one has subjugated 480 million others, then it is understandable, after all, if the person affected now has the wish that now peace should finally prevail. For 300 years, we have waged war against the war. For 300 years, we have enriched ourselves. For 300 years, we have subjugated land after land, knocked down folk after folk. But now we have the world, and now there should be

peace.! - That is understandable. It was hence also understandable that one now really wanted to carry out in the League of Nations a kind of sterilization of the now set in condition.

But, after all, everything then turned out differently. Today an English minister stands up and says with tears in his eyes: Oh, how gladly would we have nonetheless come to an agreement with Germany, if only we could have trust in the word of German governments.

Exactly the same thing lies on my tongue! Oh, how gladly would we have nonetheless come to an agreement with an Englishman, if only we could have trust in the word of his leadership! For when has a folk ever more been vilely lied to and swindled and deceived than in the last two decades the German folk by English statesmen!

Where was the promised freedom of folks?

Where was justice back then?

Where was the self-determination of folks?

Where was the renunciation of contributions and war reparations etc.?

Where was the promised regulation of the colonial problem?

Where was the solemn declaration that one did not want to take away from Germany its colonies?

Where was the sacred assurance than one did not have the intention of burdening us with unbearable burdens? Where, finally, were the assurances that we would be accepted as nation with equal rights into the lap of this so-called League of Nations?

Where was the assurance that a general disarmament would take place?

Nothing but lies!

One has taken our colonies away from us, one has destroyed our trade, one has stolen our military fleet, one has torn away from us millions of Germans, one allowed them to be mistreated, one has plundered our folk, one has burdened us with contributions and burdens that we would not have been able to pay off in a hundred years. One has plunged us into deepest misery. And from this misery has come the National Socialist movement.

One should not act today as if one wanted to open, say, for a Germany that was not National Socialist, as if one wanted to open for it, say, the golden British heart. The Germany that we once knew was, God knows, anything else but National Socialist; it was democratic, it was cosmopolitan, it believed blindly in the assurances of British statesmen. This Germany had trust back then, it disarmed itself, it dishonored itself. And it was only deceived! And from the distress that came from it, our movement has come! And from the greatest breach of word of all times, a Spa came and later a Versailles, that treaty of shame; for you know it, my old comrades, how precisely from this spot I portrayed to you hundreds and hundreds of times, point by point. Over 400 articles, in each of these articles is and was partially an insult, partially a rape of a great nation. The result of it was then this time of misery and of desperation, in it as well the time of inflation, of the theft of all savings, of the theft of all life possibilities, the time of great unemployment, of the slow starvation of our folk, the time of tremendous suicides in Germany. For back then, this Germany had more suicides in two years than Americans who fell over the course of the war in the west.

From this great distress has arisen our movement, and it has hence had to make difficult decisions from the first day on.

And one of these decisions was the revolt of November 8/9, 1923. This decision seemingly failed back then, only, Germany's rescue has first really come from these sacrifices. 16 dead! Just that millions have been pulled up by them. The National Socialist movement began its triumphant march through Germany back then.

And since then, Germany has become a world power - through our movement! Certainly, it was understandable that the old enemy would stir again at the moment, when we should have overcome the consequences of the defeats.

There are without a doubt two kinds of England. We not want to be unfair here. In England as well, there are numerous people for whom this whole hypocritical bearing is inwardly hated, who have nothing to do with it. Only they are either silenced there or they are speechless. Decisive for us is that we have never found these Englishmen, for whom we ourselves have searched for years. You know how I have endeavored for almost two years to struggle for agreement and for agreement with England. Our whole goal setting was a single limitation of German policy in the sense of the enabling of the achievement of an agreement with England; likewise an agreement with France. What all did we not write off here, what did we not renounce! One thing, however, was self-evident: A German government cannot pronounce a renunciation of life! And the National Socialist government does not think at all about pronouncing a renunciation of life! Quite the opposite, we have come, after all, out of protest against the previous renunciation of life by our democratic world. I do not think at all about pronouncing a renunciation of life, rather, quite the opposite, I will succeed with the life and the security of the German folk and Reich!

I have never presumed to butt into, say, British or French interests. If an Englishman exists today who now stands up and says: We are responsible for the fate of the folks of Central Europe, we are responsible for the fate of the folks of Eastern Europe, then I can only say to this gentleman: Precisely so could we declare, we are responsible for the folks in Palestine, for the fate of the folks in Egypt, for the fate of the folks, for all I care, in India.

If an Englishman says: Our border lies on the Rhine, and the next comes and says: Our border lies on the Vistula, then I can only say to him: See to it, sir, that you get back to the River Thames, otherwise we will help you to find your real borders!

Present day Germany, at any rate, is willing and determined to secure its borders and to protect its living space. It is the space that the English have not cultivated, rather we! We have gone nowhere the English had already brought culture.

If Lord Halifax now declares in his speech of yesterday that he stands up for the arts and culture, and for that purpose Germany must be destroyed, then we can only say: Sir, we already had culture when you still had no idea of culture. And in the last six years, more has been accomplished in Germany than in the last 100 years in England! And whither we have previously gone, we did not find there cultural monuments of British culture apostles, rather the cultural monuments of Germans. I have sought in vain in Prague, or Poland, or Graudenz, or in Thorn, or in Danzig, or in Vienna, to find British cultural monuments. Perhaps these British cultural monuments stand in Egypt or in India.

At any rate, we have elevated the German nation again, and indeed from year to year, beginning with the year 1933 through 1934, 1935 and 1936. We have put behind us one step after the other and made Germany free, move by move, and at the same time made it strong! And here, however, I also understand the concern of these international warmongers. They have seen to their regret that the new Germany nonetheless is no longer totally the old Germany.

I have striven to develop not only the cultural side of our life, rather also the power side, and indeed fundamentally!

We have built up a Wehrmacht - I can safely say this today, after all - such as a second does not exist in the world!

And behind this Wehrmacht stands a folk in a unity such as was never previously the case in German history! And over this Wehrmacht and over this folk stands today a government with a fanatical strength of will, such as this as well was never before the case in the past centuries in Germany!

This new Germany, as you all know, possesses no war goal at all against England or France. I took a stand on this in my last speech as well, when I offered my hand to England and France for the last time. If one now nonetheless attacks us, then that can have nothing to do with, say, the question of Austria or the Czech land or Poland, for, after all, generally one immediately very quickly forgot the questions according to need. And besides, the case of Poland, after all, shows how little England in itself is interested in the existence of states, for otherwise, after all, it would have had to declare war on Soviet Russia as well, since Poland, after all, was roughly halved. But the English say: No, that is no longer the decisive thing at all now, we now have another war goal again. First, it was Poland's freedom, then - then it was Nazism, then it was again the guarantees for the future. Now it will be something else. They will simply wage war, as long as, above all, they find somebody who is willing to wage war with them, this means, who is willing to let himself as well be sacrificed for them. The reasons are the old slogans. If one namely declares that one now wants to stand up for freedom, for freedom overall and in particular, then Great Britain, after all, could give the world a wonderful example in that it finally bestows full freedom upon its own nationalities.

How noble would this British crusade then immediately look, if it had been introduced with the proclamation of freedom for the 350 million Indians or if it had been introduced with the proclamation of independence, of free right of plebiscite, for all other British colonies! How glorious would this British crusade then look, and how gladly would we then bow before such an England! Initially, however, we see how this England itself suppresses hundreds of millions of people, how this same England has looked on as numerous millions of Germans have been suppressed. It hence does not move us in the least, if today a British minister exclaims with crying eyes that England has only idealistic goals, no selfish ones at all. Britain has never yet had them. - I already said that Britain has never yet fought for selfish goals, rather the dear Lord has in the execution of the fighting only then bestowed upon England the regions and the people as reward for fighting unselfishly. Hence if they now declare again that they possess no selfish goals, then this is ridiculous. That does not move us, and the German folk can really only be amazed that barely 20 years after such a huge world swindle one can still serve up the same swindle.

Or, if one says that one stands up for culture. England as culture creator is a factor for itself. We have few traces of a real British cultural creative activity in other lands. England's cultural activity is limited almost exclusively to the British motherland itself and to those regions that are practically subjugated to this British motherland. Otherwise we can see nothing of a cultural activity. We Germans do not need to let ourselves be taken in by the English in the sphere of culture at all. Our music, our literature, our architecture, our painting, our sculpture can absolutely compare itself with the English and the English arts. Still, I believe one individual -well, let us say: Beethoven - has musically accomplished more than all Englishmen of the past and

present together. And the nurturing of this culture, we also look after that better than the English can at all.

If they then further say that it is now time to finally put an end to the war - they would not have needed to start it at all! For the war is only there, because England wanted it!

If they say today: Now there is war, we - the English - do not want that, we will hence now wage war so that in the future there are no longer any wars, then one can only say to them: They did not need to start the war at all, then there would be no war at all!

We are convinced that, furthermore, there will be wars for as long as the goods of the world are not fairly distributed, and as long as one does not, from one's own will and out of justice, undertake this distribution of goods.

And one could do that, after all! If one says today: Yes, National Socialist Germany, we cannot give it the colonies, even though they downright pain us ourselves, for we English are distressed by the possession of these colonies, we would gladly like to distribute the raw materials of the world, but we must give that to somebody whom we trust! - Oh, other governments warn against us as well, after all. Those were governments by England's grace; they were, after all, in part paid by England. One must have trust for that! Why did one not give them the goods to which the German folk has claim? Here as well, one would not need to distribute anything at all, one would just need to not first rob us of our property!

We as well are of the opinion that this war must come to an end, and that one cannot and should not and may not come again every few years. And we hence consider it necessary that, for this purpose, the nations limit themselves in their spheres of influence, this means in other words, that the condition comes to an end that a folk presumes to want to play world policeman and wants to butt in everywhere. At least, insofar as it is about Germany, this time the British government will still recognize that the attempt to undertake an establishment of a police dictatorship must and will fail.

Neither in the past nor in the present have we ever become acquainted with the British statesmen as culture apostles - but we do not bear them at all as police authority! Furthermore, they also know that all this are not the reasons.

The reasons lie in another area. Basically, they hate social Germany! For what have we ever done to them? Nothing at all! What have we taken from them? Nothing at all! Have we threatened them? Not once! Were we not ready, say, to make treaties with them? Yes! We also did that. Did we not obligate ourselves to undertake

limitations of our armaments? We have even proposed that. No, all of that did not interest them.

What they hate, that is Germany, which offers a "bad" example, it is, first of all, social Germany, the Germany of our social work legislation, which they hated already before the World War and that they hate today, too. The Germany of welfare, that they hate, the Germany of social compensation, the Germany of the elimination of class differences, that they hate. The Germany that, over of the course of seven years, now strives to enable its folk comrades a decent life, that they hate. The Germany that has eliminated unemployment, which they could not eliminate with their wealth, that they hate! The Germany that on its ships gives its workers, the seamen, decent quarters, that is what they hate, because they have the feeling that their own folk could be "infected" by it! And they hence also hate the Germany of social legislation, the Germany that celebrates May 1st as the Day of National Work, that has taken up the struggle toward the classes. This Germany, they hate it, in reality. They hence also primarily hate the healthy Germany, the folk healthy Germany, the Germany that concerns itself for its folk comrades, which washes the children, where the child does not run away full of lice, that does not let conditions arise such as they now admit in their own press. This Germany, they hate!

It is their money magnets, their Jewish and non-Jewish international barons, bank barons etc., those are the ones who hate us, because they see in this Germany a bad example, which could perhaps incite others folks - their own. They hate the Germany of our young, healthy, blossoming generation, the Germany of welfare for this generation.

And they hence naturally thereby also hate the strong Germany, the Germany that marches, the Germany that voluntarily takes upon itself sacrifices.

How they hate us, we have seen this, after all. We made a Four-Year Plan in order to help ourselves. We have through this Four-Year Plan taken nothing from anybody. For if we make gasoline or rubber out of our coal, or if we help ourselves with other substitute materials, what do we thereby take away from the others? Nothing, nothing at all! Quite the opposite, they should be happy, they would have been able to say: Then you thereby unburden our markets, God be praised and thank God, if they produce their own gasoline, then they do not need to export so that they can import. - All the better for us, world gasoline remains reserved for us. - No, they fought against the Four-Year Plan. They said: The plan must go! - Why then? Because it makes Germany healthy! That is the sole reason.

It is the struggle against the free, against the independent, against the healthy, against the life-capable Germany. That is now their struggle!

And this is now confronted by our struggle. And this struggle is our eternal National Socialist and constant one, the struggle for the establishment of a healthy, strong folk community, for the overcoming and elimination of the damages in this community and for the security of this community toward the other world. This is the goal: We fight for our folk's security, for our living space, in which we do not let ourselves be bossed around by others!

If one now declares in England that this conflict, which has now broken out, this is the Second Punic war, then it does not yet stand firm in history who in this case is Rome and who is Carthage. In the first, at any rate, England was not yet Rome, for in the Punic War, Rome really triumphed; in the First World War, England did not triumph, rather others were the victors. And in the second - this I can assure you - England will really not be the victor! This time, another Germany confronts this England of the World War; they will probably still be able to gauge this in the foreseeable future. A Germany that is filled with an intractable will, and that reacts to the nonsense of British slogan men only with laughter. If today an Englishman comes and says: We fight for the world's freedom, we fight for democracy, we fight for culture, we fight for civilization, we fight for justice - then this only triggers resounding laughter in Germany.

For that, the generation still lives, after all, which has become personally acquainted with the "honesty" of such British war goal presentations. And even if we ourselves had not learned anything, then, in any case, we also would not have not forgotten anything! But we have not only not forgotten anything, rather we have learned!

Every British balloon that drifts into our lines and brings down a few "inventive" leaflets proves to us that, in this other world, everything has remained at a standstill for 20 years. But every echo in Germany would have to prove to them that here a movement took place, and indeed a movement of tremendous dynamic magnitude and of a tremendous force and effectiveness.

England does not want peace! We have heard that again yesterday. I declared already in my Reichstag speech that I personally have nothing more to say about it. The rest, we will say to the English in the language that they will probably already understand!

We are very sorry that France put itself in the service of this British war agitation and that it couples its path with England's path.

As regards Germany, we have never been afraid of a front. We once successfully defended two fronts. We now have only one front, and we will be successful on this front, one can be convinced of that!

I have viewed it not as a success of German politics, rather as a success of reason, that we have managed to come to an agreement with Russia. Once both folks fought each other to the point of bleeding to death. Neither of both folks had a gain from it. We have agreed to no longer do the gentlemen in London and Paris this favor a second time!

So we now stand at a great historical turning point. From struggle, National Socialism once arose. We were all soldiers back then. A large portion has today again put on the gray uniform. But the others as well have remained soldiers. Germany has thoroughly transformed itself. Just as Prussia, in the years 1813 and 1814, could no longer be compared to the Prussia of 1806, so can the Germany of 1939, 1940, 1941 or 1942 no longer be compared to the Germany of 1914, 1915, 1916 or 1917 or 1918.

What could exist back then, is impossible in the future. We will - and, above all, the party guarantees this to me - make sure that the manifestations such as we unfortunately had to experience in the World War, that such manifestations can no longer surface in Germany. We, my National Socialist fighters, dealt with these manifestations when we still fought as a ridiculous minority in Germany.

Back then, we only had our faith. And we beat down these manifestations and eliminated them. Today we also have power. And never again will such manifestations come across Germany.

Our will is exactly as unbending in the struggle toward the outside as it was once unbending in the struggle for power in the interior. Just as I always told you back then: everything is conceivable, just not one thing, that we capitulate, so I can today as well only repeat to the world as National Socialist: Everything is conceivable, never a capitulation! One should get that out of one's head, after all. If one then declares to me: then the war will last three years -, how long it lasts, plays no role, Germany will never capitulate, never, not now, and also not in three years.

One tells me England has prepared itself for a three-year war. On the day of the British war declaration, I gave Field Marshal Göring the order to immediately make all preparations for a duration of initially five years, not because I believe that this war lasts five years, but because even in five years we would never capitulate, and indeed not for any price in the world.

But we will now show these gentlemen, after all, what the strength of an 80 million folk can do, under one leadership, with one will, united in one community. And here, the party, in memory of the earlier dead, will have to really fulfill its great mission. It becomes the bearer of this will, of the determination, of the unity and hence of our German folk community. Whatever individual sacrifices may yet be demanded from us, that will pass, it is unimportant. Decisive is and remains only victory!

Thanks to our preparations, we will wage this struggle under much easier conditions than, say, in the year 1914. Back then, Germany blindly stumbled into this struggle. We have equipped the nation for many years psychologically, but, above all, also economically. Through our great planning, we have made sure that the German pilot does not run out of gasoline. Through our planning, we have made sure that in the first war year there is no wastage and valuable goods are used up, rather that, on the day of the declaration of war, immediately that rationing sets in, which offers the prerequisites for holding out even for the longest time. But in all other areas as well, we have developed our German possibilities to the most extreme, so that I can today give you only the one assurance: Neither militarily nor economically will they be able to beat us down to the slightest degree. Here only one can triumph, and that is we!

That Mr. Churchill does not believe this, I ascribe to his old age. Others as well have not believed this. They were first taught by Mr. Churchill, Mr. Chamberlain, Mr. Halifax etc., our Polish opponents. They would have never gone to this war, if they had not been driven in by the British side. England reinforced their back and whipped them up and agitated them. The course of the war has shown, for perhaps the first time, what instrument the German Reich has meanwhile forged for itself. It was not so, my folk comrades, that, say, the Pole was cowardly, or that he only ran, that was not so! He fought very valiantly at many spots. Nonetheless, a state with over 36 million people, with around 50 divisions, a state that, at the time, had an average recruiting year with almost 300,000 compared to 120,000 French recruits per year - nonetheless, this state was, in just 10 days militarily beaten, in 18 days, annihilated and in 30 days, forced to total capitulation!

In the process, we are also aware how much Providence has helped us. In the process, it made so much possible for us. It has allowed our plans to be properly shaped, and it has visibly blessed the execution. Without it, this work would have never been able to succeed, not in this period. We are hence also of the belief that Providence wanted what happened! Just as I often declared to you earlier that the defeat of 1918 was deserved, deserved by us, because we had not been able to properly and worthily preserve the great victories. In the future, one should no longer make this reproach to us.

In this gratitude, we bow before all our heroes, before the brave soldiers, our dead comrades and the many wounded. Through their sacrifice, they have helped that the first enemy, who brought this war to ignition, was overcome in hardly 30 days. May every German be aware that the sacrifice of these men is exactly as valuable as the sacrifice of every other in the future will be valuable, that nobody has the right to deem his sacrifice in the future more valuable. What we as National Socialists have brought along in the history of our movement as realization and as oath of the martyrdom of November 9th, namely that for which the first 16 fell, was valuable

enough to bring many others, if necessary, to die - this realization should never leave us in the future as well.

For our German folk, countless millions have fallen over the course of many centuries, yes, millennia. Millions of others have given their blood for it, none of us knows whether it does not strike him, too. Only each must know that he does not thereby make more sacrifices than others before him have also made and others after him will one day have to make. The sacrifices that the woman takes upon herself in that she gives the nation the child, the man takes upon himself in sacrifices in that he defends the nation.

We National Socialists have always been fighters. And now is the great time in which we want to prove ourselves as fighters.

We thereby also best celebrate the anniversary of the memory of the first sacrifice of our movement. I cannot close this evening without, as always, thanking you for your devotion throughout all the long years, and without promising you that, in the future as well, we want to hold high the old ideals, that we want to stand up for them, and that we will not shun the risk, if necessary, of our own life as well, in order to achieve the program of our movement, the program that says nothing else than to secure our folk life and existence in this world.

That was the first introduction paragraph of our National Socialist affirmation of faith, and that will be the last sentence that stands written over each individual National Socialist, then, when at the end of his fulfillment of duty, he parts from this world.

Party comrades! Our National Socialist movement, our German folk and, above all, now our victorious Wehrmacht

Sieg Heil!

Shortly after the Führer left the Bürgerbräukeller on November 8th, a large explosion took place at the spot where the Führer spoke. There were 8 dead. The ties that led to England were ascertained.

On November 15th, Germany informs the Belgian ambassador and the Dutch emissary that it views the peace efforts of the king and queen, after England's and France's refusal, as failed.

On November 30th, the conflict Soviet Union/Finland leads to the outbreak of armed conflicts.

The Führer spends the Christmas holiday with his soldiers in a bunker on the Western Front.

At New Year, Adolf Hitler issues the following proclamations:

To Party and Folk!

National Socialists!

Party comrades!

When seven years ago National Socialism, after an unprecedented struggle for the soul of the German folk, was finally summoned for the leadership of the Reich, Germany found itself in that state that Clemenceau once characterized with the short sentence: "There are 20 million Germans too many in the world." The Versailles treaty forced upon our folk for the realization of this wish did not disappoint its fathers. The German nation, disunited internally, torn overall, without power and prestige, no longer seemed in the position to master the economic impoverishment going hand in hand with the political enslavement. The seven million unemployed, along with their family members, meant roughly 24 million people who lacked any foundation for existence. For 15 years, democratic Germany whined and begged for the revision of the bitterest injustice that had ever been inflicted on a folk. The representatives of the plutocratic world democracies had only icy rejection or scornful slogans for this. National Socialism, however, corresponding to its program, was determined to solve the tasks affecting our folk, whether with or without the approval of the surrounding world!

After the years long attempt to come to a kind agreement with the plutocratic powers had failed in all areas, the new Reich now took its rights itself. The just as criminal as silly intention to definitively politically disenfranchise an 80 million nation and to exclude it from a share in the world's goods cannot be a morally or legally binding law for the folk unfortunately affected itself.

From the first day of the rise to power on, I have continually striven to achieve the necessary revisions both of Germany's political position as well as of its economic life conditions. All attempts to bring this about in accord with the other powers failed due to the stubborn egoism, the silliness or the intentionally bad, rejecting will of the western powers and their states-men. So the liberation of the German folk had to come with that legal force that was a sacred one in all times of great folk distress and self-help. After the overcoming of the internal division, National Socialist Germany has, step by step, cast off the chains of slavery and, finally, in the unification of the German folk in the Greater German Reich, experienced the crowning of a historically unique struggle and a thousand year yearning.

All these measures have robbed nothing from the world and not damaged it at all. They have only given the German folk what all other folks have long possessed. Nonetheless, Jewish- international capitalism, in combination with social-reactionary

strata in the western states, have managed to incite the world of the democracies against Germany. It is today proven, through the publication of the documents of the prehistory of the German-Polish conflict, that the responsible war agitators in England not only did not want the peaceful solution of the German- Polish problems, rather, quite the opposite, they did everything to open the path via Poland - be it to a humiliation of the Reich or a declaration of war against the same. Since the humiliation failed, only the second possibility remained open: Poland let itself be misguided by the international war agitators to achieve injustice through force. In 18 days, the weapons decided. The new National Socialist Wehrmacht, however, exceeded the hopes placed in it: The Poland of the Versailles treaty no longer exists!

The year 1939 is characterized by a series of mighty events for the history of our folk:

First, for the pacification of Central Europe and the security of German living space, there occurred the integration of the ancient German Reich territories of Bohemia and Moravia as protectorate into the framework of the Greater German Reich. Germans and Czechs, like in centuries in the past, will in the future as well again peacefully live next to each other and work with each other.

Second, the Memel land returned to the Reich.

Third, through the destruction of the former Polish state, there occurred the restoration of old German Reich borders.

In these three cases, the life-incapable constructions of the Versailles treaty were eliminated.

Fourth, the fourth characteristic of the year is the non-aggression and consultation pact with Soviet Russia. The at-tempt of the plutocratic statesmen of the west be make Ger-many and Russia again bleed out against each other for the benefit of all third parties was nipped in the bud back then, Germany's encirclement prevented.

That this political development could succeed so well, we owe exclusively to the inner reformation of the German folk that took place through National Socialism. The educational process that the National Socialist movement undertook on the German folk has increasingly begun to have a successful effect economically and politically. The military rearmament has found its supplement in a new economic policy that not only makes the Reich independent from foreign lands in many areas, rather which also enabled for us the overcoming of unemployment to a degree which even today is not the case among the rich lands of the west.

So we enter the most decisive year of German history internally organizationally united, economically prepared and militarily best equipped!

For we must all be clear about one thing, National Socialists: the Jewish-capitalist opponent who confronts us knows only one goal; it is: to destroy Germany, the German folk! However they may strive to re-write this goal with slogans, it changes nothing in the ultimate intention! They first declared they wanted to help Poland. But they would have easily been able to help Poland, they simply would not have had to incite it to war with their unscrupulousness. But as soon as the Polish state had experienced the consequences of its crazy step, thanks to the striking force of our Wehrmacht, the restoration of Poland was no longer the war goal, rather now the elimination of my person, this means the extermination of National Socialism. Hardly had they become aware that the German folk no longer reacts to this dumbest swindle after the experiences of the year 1918, when they finally admitted the truth, namely: that it is their goal to exterminate the German folk as such, to dissolve the Reich and thereby to destroy it. In the cowardly hope to win others for this task as helpers, they shunned neither the harnessing of "neutrals" nor the hire of paid assassins. The German folk has not wanted this fight. I tried to the last minute to offer England German friendship and, beyond that, after Poland's elimination, to make proposals guaranteeing Europe's pacification long-term. I was supported in this, above all, by Il Duce of Fascist Italy, who, in the sense and spirit of our friendship, did everything in order to stop a development that can only be accompanied by misfortune for all of Europe. Only the Jewish and reactionary war agitators in the western democracies had waited for years for this hour, prepared themselves for it and were not willing to refrain from their plans for Germany's destruction.

The gentlemen war interested parties want war, so they should also get it!

Already the first phase of the conflict has shown two things: First, that one does not even dare to oneself attack the German West Wall, and

second, that wherever German soldiers could test themselves against their opponents, the glory of German soldiery as well as the reputation of our arms were justified anew.

May the year 1940 bring the decision! Whatever may come, it will be our victory! Whatever sacrifices are demanded in this period from the individual stand in no comparison to the effort that the whole German nation makes, in no comparison to the fate that would threaten it, if the lying criminals of Versailles once more obtained power. We hence have a clear war goal: Germany, and beyond that, Europe, must be freed from the rape and constant threat that take their start in earlier and present- day England. This time, the weapon must be definitively knocked from the hands of the war agitators and war declarers. We fight in the process not only against the injustice

of Versailles, rather for the prevention of an even greater injustice that it supposed to replace it. And in the positive sense: we fight for the construction of a new Europe, for, in contrast to Mr. Chamberlain, we are of the conviction that this new Europe cannot be shaped by the forces grown old of a world in the process of decay, rather only those folks and forces are called upon for Europe's new construction, which in their bearing and in their previous performance can be addressed as young and productive ones. The future belongs to these young nations and systems! The Jewish-capitalist world will not survive the 20th century!

National Socialists! German folk comrades!

In the past year, our German folk Reich, thanks to the mercy of Providence, has achieved the historically miraculous and unprecedented! At the beginning of the year 1940, we can only ask the Lord that he may continue to bless us in the struggle for freedom, independence and thus for our folk's life and future! We ourselves, in the realization of the duty lying before us, want to do everything in order to solve the task put to us with industriousness and valor. Through our own strength and help, we want to so ask the Lord not to deny the German folk his own in the year 1940 as well. Then we must and will succeed in this.

Berlin, December 31, 1939.

Adolf Hitler.

To the Wehrmacht!

Soldiers!

The year 1939 was for the Greater German Wehrmacht a year of proud confirmation! You have victoriously wielded the weapons entrusted to you by the German folk in the war forced upon us. In barely 18 days, it was possible, through the coordination of all, to restore the Reich's security in the east, to eliminate the Versailles injustice.

Full of gratitude, we remember at the end of this historical year the comrades who sealed their loyalty to folk and Reich with their blood! For the coming year, we want to ask the Al-mighty, who in the past year so visibly took us under his protection, to again give us his blessing and to strengthen us in the fulfillment of our duty! For before us lies the most difficult struggle for the existence or non-existence of the German folk.

With proud confidence, I and the whole nation look to you! With such soldiers, Germany must triumph.

December 31, 1939.

Adolf Hitler.

On the seventh anniversary of the rise to power by National Socialism in the Reich, the Führer spears on January 30, 1940 in the Berlin Sportpalast:

Speech of the Führer on January 30, 1940 in the Berlin Sportpalast

German folk comrades!

Seven years are a short time, the fraction of an individual human, normal life - hardly a second in the life of a folk. And yet, the seven years lying behind us seem to be longer than many decades of the past. A great historical experience is concentrated in them: the resurrection of a nation threatened by destruction. An infinitely eventful period, which often seems hardly possible to take in at a glance for us who have not only experienced it, rather in part could shape it.

Today we very often speak of democratic ideals; this means, not in Germany, rather in the other world that is spoken of. For in Germany, after all, we have become sufficiently well acquainted with this democratic ideal; so if today the other world today again praises this ideal, then we can initially only reply that the German folk had for at least 15 years the opportunity to become acquainted with this matter in its pure form, and we ourselves, after all, have merely inherited the legacy of this democracy.

We are now presented with such wonderful war goals, especially from the English side. England, after all, is experienced in the proclamation of war goals, since it has waged most of the world's wars. They are wonderful war goals, which are today proclaimed to us. A new Europe should arise. This Europe should then be filled with justice, and this general justice, after all, then also makes arms superfluous, there should then be disarming. Through this disarmament, economic blossoming should then begin, trade and commerce should then set it, and indeed primarily trade, much trade, free trade! And under this trade, culture should then flourish, and not only culture, rather also religion should then thrive again. In a word: now the golden age should come. Unfortunately, this golden age has a few times already been presented to us similarly, and indeed not once by the past generations, rather by the same people who describe it again today. They are rather old, worn out records. And one can really feel sorry for the gentlemen who have not found some new idea as means by which one can perhaps again bait a great folk, for, after all, one had already promised basically that in the year 1918; the war goal of the English back then, after all, was also the "new Europe", the "new justice", this new justice that was supposed to possess as most essential element the self-determination of folks. Back then, after all, one also spoke of justice, which in the future would make the bearing of arms seem superfluous. Hence also back then already the program of disarmament, and indeed a disarmament by all. And in order to make this disarmament especially conspicuous, this disarmament was supposed to be crowned with a league of the disarmed nations, which, after all, in the future should now be determined that all their differences - that

there would still be differences, at least one still did not doubt that back then - that these differences should now, as is customary in democracies, be talked away in free speech, in counterpoint and debate. In no case should there be more shooting. And back then one already said that the result of this disarmament and this general world parliament would then be a tremendous blossoming - a blossoming of trade, of free trade. And culture as well was not supposed to be shorted, and about religion, at the end of the war back then, however, after all, one spoke a little less than now at the beginning, but still, one at least still declared to us in the year 1918 that a blessed and agreeable to God era should come.

What then came, we experienced. One smashed the old states without even just once asking the folks. In not a single case did one back then first ask the nations, whether they would be in agreement with the measures that one planned for them. One dissolved old bodies that had become historical - not only state bodies, rather also economic bodies; one could replace them with nothing better, for what had formed over the course of centuries was probably already in itself the better - in no case could the people put something better, who viewed the whole of European history only with the greatest arrogance anyway.

So without regard for the right of self-determination of folks, one hacked up Europe, tore up Europe, dissolved large states, disenfranchised nations in that one first made them defenseless, and then made a division which from the start left victors and vanquished in this world. One then no longer spoke of disarmament, rather, quite the opposite, one continued to arm. For one had not started, say, to peacefully solve the conflicts, rather, quite the opposite, the armed states waged war just like before. Only the disarmed were no longer in the position to resist the violent acts of the armed or even to keep them at bay. Parallel to this naturally also came not economic prosperity, rather, quite the opposite, an insane system of reparations lead to an economic impoverishment of not only the so-called vanquished, rather also of the victors themselves. No folk felt the consequences of this economic impoverishment more than the German. The general economic disorganization led precisely among us to an unemployment from which our German folk seemed to perish. Culture as well received no support, rather, quite the opposite, it was scarred and distorted. Religion stepped totally into the background; in these 15 years, no Englishman remembered religion. The gentlemen did not take a stroll with the Bible, rather their bible was the treaty of Versailles! That was 448 paragraphs, which all represented only a burden, an obligation, a condemnation and an extortion of or against Germany. And this Versailles was guaranteed by the new League of Nations - not a league of free nations, of equal nations, not a League of Nations at all - the actual based nation remained distant from the start -, rather a League of Nations whose sole task it was to guarantee this vilest dictate that one had not negotiated, rather that one simply imposed upon us, and to force us to fulfill this dictate.

This was the time of the democratic Germany! If today foreign statesmen often act as if one could have not trust in present-day Germany, then that could certainly in no case hold for Germany back then; for that Germany of back then was, after all, their offspring, their most own work, in it they could have trust, after all!

And how did they mistreat this Germany! Who can still fully recall the history of these years: the misery of the collapse of the year 1918, the tragedy of the year 1919 and then all the years of domestic economic decay, of progressing enslavement, of the impoverishment of our folk and, above all, of the complete hopelessness! Even today, it is still shocking to reimmerse oneself in this time, when a great nation gradually lost confidence not only, say, in itself, rather, above all, in any earthly justice. In this whole period, this democratic Germany hoped in vain, it begged just as futilely and it protested just as futilely. International finance - it remained brutally unscrupulous, exploited our folk as much as it could; the statesmen of the Allied nations - they remained hard-hearted. Quite the opposite, one said back then quite ice cold that we were 20 millions Germans too many. One remained deaf toward the misery of our unemployed, one did not concern oneself with the ruin of our agriculture or that of our industry, not even of our trade, We remember this commerce standstill, which back then spread in the German Reich.

In this time when all hoping was in vain, when all requesting remained futile and when all protesting led to no success, there emerged the National Socialist movement, and indeed proceeding from a realization - namely the realization that, in this world, one may not hope and should not request and may not lower oneself to protesting, rather that, in this world, one must, above all, help oneself!

For 15 years, the hope was preached in this democratic Germany of back then in the other world, in its institutions; each camp had its international protective patron. The one - they hoped in the international solidarity of the proletariat, the other hoped again in the international democratic institutions, in the League of Nations in Geneva, still others in the world conscience, in the conscience of culture etc..

This hoping was in vain. We have now replaced this hoping with another hoping, namely the hoping in the only hope that exists in this world, help through one's own strength. This hoping was replaced by the faith in our German folk, in the mobilization of its eternal inner values. Back then, few, few real means stood at our disposal. What we viewed as the corner-stones of the new Reich were, aside from our will, above all, our folk's work strength, second, our folk's intelligence and third, what our own living space could offer us, our own soil. So we began our work and then experienced this inner German rise. This inner German rise that did not threaten the world at all, which was a purely internal German reform work, nonetheless immediately summoned up the hatred by the others. We experienced that perhaps most tragically in the period when we proclaimed the Four-Year Plan - an idea that should have actually enthused

the other world: a folk wants to help itself, it does not appeal to help from others, it appeals to its own creative abilities, to its industriousness, to its energy, to its intelligence. And nonetheless, this other world began to roar, English statesmen screamed: What are you thinking, this Four-Year Plan, it does not fit into our world economy! - as if they would have allowed us to participate in this world economy at all. No, they scented the resurrection of the German folk - and that it why, because we foresaw that and because we noticed that, we immediately undertook the mobilization of German strength parallel to this resurrection.

You know the years. 1933, this still in the year in which we took over power, I saw myself motivated to declare the resignation from the League of Nations and to leave the ridiculous disarmament conference. We could receive no right before both these forums despite years of requesting and of protesting.

1934 began German armament on the largest scale.

1935 I introduced universal compulsory military service.

1936 I had the Rhineland occupied.

1937 the Four Year Plan began to go into effect.

1938 Austria was annexed onto the Reich and the Sudeten-land.

1939 we began to protect the Reich against those enemies who had meanwhile already unmasked themselves. For the protection of the Reich, the measures of the year 1939 have taken place.

All of that could have turned out differently, if this other world had summoned up for just one hour understanding for the German demands, for the German life necessities. One says so often: One should have negotiated that. - You remember, my folk comrades, did I not present more than once to the world for negotiation the German colonial demand? Did we ever get a reply to it, other than a no, other than a rejection, yes, downright new provocations?

No, England and France, in their leading strata, were deter-mined at the moment of the Reich's resurrection to take up the fight anew. They wanted it so.

England has for 300 years pursued the goal of preventing Europe's economic consolidation, just as France sought for many centuries to prevent Germany's consolidation.

If now today a Mr. Chamberlain appears as preacher and proclaims his pious war aims to the surrounding world, then I can only say: Your own history contradicts you, Mister Chamber- lain. For 300 years, your statesmen have at the outbreak of war always talked like you, Mr. Chamberlain, today talk. They have always only fought

for God and for religion. They have never had a material goal. But precisely because Englishmen never fight for a material goal, the dear Lord has then so richly rewarded them materially. That England also appeared only as fighter for truth, for justice, the champion of all virtues, God has not forgotten that of the English. For that, they have been richly blessed. They have in 300 years subjugated 40 million square kilometers of the earth, everything naturally not, say, out of egoism, not, say, our of earthly desire for dominance or for wealth of for pleasure, no, quite the opposite, one did all that only as God's mission and for the sake of good and dear religion. Admittedly, England did not even want to be God's fighter alone, rather it has always invited others to participate in this noble conflict. It did not exactly strive to bear the chief burden, rather, for works so pleasing to God, one can also al-ways seek fellow fighters.

It does this today as well. And, as said, this has been richly rewarded for England. 40 million square kilometers, and English history is a single succession of rapes, of extortion, of tyrannical mistreatment, of suppression, of looting. There are things that would actually be unthinkable in any other state and in any other folk. One has waged war for everything. One waged war in order to expand trade. One waged war in order to cause others to smoke opium. But one also waged war, if necessary, to gain gold mines, to get rule over diamond mines. They were always material goals, but always naturally embellished as noble and ideal. The last war as well, it was waged only for ideal goals. That one on the side also nonetheless pocketed the German colonies, God wanted it so again. That one took away our fleet, that one cashed in the German foreign assets, those are just accompanying manifestations in this noble conflict for sacred religion.

If Mr. Chamberlain today walks around with the Bible and preaches his war aims, then this seems to me as if the devil approaches a poor soul with a prayer book. And in the process, now that is no longer really original. That is worn out, nobody believes that of him anymore, after all. I believe he himself doubts himself.

Besides: Each folk burns its finger only once. The children followed the Pied Piper of Hameln only once, and the German folk an apostle of international folk fraternization and agreement etc. also only once!

There I praise Mister Churchill. He only says openly what old Mister Chamberlain thinks and hopes only in silence. He says it: Our goal is Germany's dissolution. Our goal is Germany's destruction. Our goal is the extermination, if possible, of the German folk. We want to beat Germany.

That, believe me, that I welcome. And French generals as well, they say it quite openly, what it is about. I believe that we can also more easily come to an agreement so. Why then only fight with these lying slogans? What not talk openly? We prefer it so. We know exactly what goal they have, whether or not Mr. Chamberlain comes with

the Bible, whether or not he acts pious, whether he speaks the truth or whether he lies. We know the goal, it is the Germany of 1648 that hovers before them, the goal - that dissolves and tears apart Germany.

They know very precisely, here in Central Europe sit 80 million Germans. These people also have a claim to life. They are also owed a share in life. For 300 years, they have been swindled out of it. They could only be swindled, because, as a result of their disunity, they were not able to bring the weight of their numbers to bear.

So today 140 people live on a square kilometer. If this people form a unit, then they are a power. If they are fragmented, they are defenseless and impotent. In their unity, however, also lies a moral right. What does it mean, if 30, 50 or 200 petty states protest or lay claim to life rights? Who takes notice of it? If 80 million stand up, then that is worse. Hence the disinclination toward Italy's state formation, against Germany's state formation. They would like best of all to again dissolve these states down to their causal elements.

A few days ago such an Englishman wrote: That is it simply, once the precipitous founding of the Imperial Reich; that was not right. - Admittedly, that was not right. It was not right that these 80 millions came together in order to jointly represent their life rights. It would be preferably to them, if these Germans would again come under two or three or four hundred flags, if possible, under two, three or four hundred dynasties, behind each dynasty a few hundred thousand, who are then totally silent against the rest of the world. Then we can naturally live on as a folk of poets and thinkers, then it is fine. The poet and the thinker, furthermore, do not need as much nourishment as the heavy laborer.

That is the problem that stands to discussion today. Here there are great nations, which over the course of centuries has been swindled out of their life share in this world as a result of their disunity. But these nations have now overcome their disunity. They have today, as young folks, entered into the circle of the others and now raise their claims. Opposed to them are the so-called propertied. And these propertied folks, which simply block large regions of the world without any sense or purpose, yes, up until a few decades ago still robbed Germany itself, these propertied now take the standpoint of the so-called propertied classes inside the folks. There repeats itself on the large scale in the world what we have experienced, after all, inside the folks as well on a small scale. Here, too, there existed economic views and political opinions that went that the one who has, simply has, and the one who does not have, simply does not have, and that it is an order pleasing to God that the one has and the other possesses nothing, and this must simply remain so. They were then opposed by other forces. The one force, it simply shouts out: We want to destroy now; if we possess nothing, then everything should be destroyed. This nihilistic force, it has raged in Germany for a decade and a half. It has been overcome by constructive National

Socialism. This National Socialists, which then did not acknowledge the existing, rather undertook only a modification in the change or in the method of change of this condition, in that it said: We want to change this condition in that we gradually let the non- propertied classes slowly participate, educate for participation in possession. But in no case can one who now possesses take the standpoint that he has every right and the other none.

And so similar is it in the world. It is not fitting that 46 mil-lion Englishmen simply block 40 million square kilometers of the earth and declare: That has been given to us by the dear Lord, and 20 years ago we got even a bit more from you. That is now our property, and we will no longer relinquish it.

And France with its actually not very fertile folk soil, barely 80 people per square kilometer; itself also has over nine million square kilometers space. Germany with over 80 million not even 600,000 square kilometers.

That is the problem that must be solved and will be solved precisely like all social questions are solved. And we experience today in general, after all, only the spectacle that we once also experienced internally on a small scale. When National Socialism began its struggle for the broad mass of our folk in the interest of the establishment of a really bearable order and a real community of people, it was attempted precisely by the liberal and democratic, thus propertied classes and their associations, parties back then to smash National Socialism, to dissolve the party. It was their eternal cry: One must ban it, one must dissolve it. - One saw in the dissolution, in the ban of the movement - one saw the destruction of the force, which would have perhaps been able to bring out a change in the existing condition. National Socialism has dealt with this wish. It has remained, and it has carried out its new order in Germany.

Today this propertied other world cries: One must dissolve Germany, one must atomize these 80 million people, one must not allow them a state, closed formation; then one takes from them the force to achieve their demands. - That is the goal that England and France have today set themselves.

To that, our reply is the same that we once gave to our internal opponents. You know, my old party comrades, that the victory in the 1933 was not given us as a gift. It was a struggle without precedent that had to be waged for almost 15 years; in the process, an almost hopeless struggle. For you must imagine, my party comrades, that we did not, after all, - let us say from Providence - suddenly receive a large movement. It was founded by a handful of people. And this handful of people had to first painstakingly secure its position and then expand. A handful of people became 100 and then 1,000 and then 10,000 and 100,000 and finally the first million. And then it became a second million and a third and a fourth. So have we grown in a constant war

against a thousand obstacles and attacks and rapes and legal violations, but also become strong, inwardly strong, in this struggle.

So after these 15 years, power was assumed not as a gift from heaven for one who did not deserve it, rather as the reward of a uniquely brave struggle, of a brave perseverance in the struggle for power.

And when I then, in the year 1933, received power and with the National Socialist movement assumed responsibility for the German future, it was clear to me that freedom would not be made a gift to our folk. It was further clear to me that now the struggle had not found its conclusion, rather it would now really begin on a larger scale. For before us stood, after all, not the victory of the National Socialist movement, rather the liberation of our German folk. That was the goal.

What I have done since then, it is, after all, all just means for a purpose. Party, Work Front, SA, SS, all other organizations, the Wehrmacht, the army, the Luftwaffe, the navy, they are, after all, no end in themselves, they are all means for a purpose. Above everything stands the security of the freedom of our German folk. I have naturally tried precisely like internally to achieve the necessary unconditional demands through persuasion, through negotiation, through appeal to reason. I managed that in some areas and a few times. Just already in the year 1938, one had to recognize that, in the opposing states, the old agitators of the World war again gained the upper hand. Back then already, I began to warn. For what should one think, if one first sits together in Munich and concludes a treaty, returns to London and immediately begins to agitate there again, decries this treaty a shame, yes, assures that such a thing may not repeat itself a second time, in other words: that a voluntary agreement should no longer be thinkable at all for the future.

Back then, the outsiders appeared in the so-called democracies. I immediately warned against it back then. For it is clear, after all. The German folk felt no hatred, neither against Englishmen nor against Frenchmen. The French folk, the English folk - the German folk now wanted to live with them in peace and friendship, after all. ft has demands that also do not hurt these folks, after all, which take nothing at all from the folks. The German folk has thus also never been trained for hostility. Then one began in England, from certain circles, with this impertinent, unbearable agitation. And then the moment came when I had to tell myself: 1 can no longer look on, rather I must now reply to this agitation. For we train the German folk for no hatred toward the English. We train it for no hatred against the French, while in England and in France the agitators, day after day, in press and in assemblies, bring the English and French folk into a rage against the German. One day the agitators will be the government. Then they will realize their plans, and the German folk will not know at all why this now comes. So I gave the order to now enlighten the German folk about this agitation. But

from this moment on, I was also determined, if necessary, to secure the Reich's defense one way or another.

In 1939, these western powers have now dropped the mask; they have sent Germany a declaration of war despite our co-operation. Today they unabashedly admit themselves: Yes, Poland would have probably agreed, but we did not want that. - Today they admit that it would have been possible to easily produce an agreement. But they did not want that. They wanted war. Fine then! My internal opponents once said that to me, too. I also often offered them my hand. They pushed it back. They also cried: No, not reconciliation, not agreement, rather conflict! - Fine, they got conflict! And I can only say to France and England: You, too, will get conflict!

The first phase of this struggle was a political action. Through it, our back was first politically freed up. For years, Germany has engaged in a common policy with Italy. This policy has not changed to the present. Both states are close friends. Their common interests can be reduced to a common denominator.

Last year, I then tried to take from England the opportunity to let the intended war distort into a general World War. For the pious, Bible studying and reading and preaching Mr. Chamber- lain then endeavored for months back then to come to an agreement, to an alliance, with the atheist Stalin. That did not succeed back then. I understand that today one is wild in England, because I have now done the same thing that Mr. Chamberlain had tried to do. And I also understand that what with Mr. Chamberlain would have been a work pleasing to God, with me is not pleasing to God. But still, I believe the Almighty will, at any rate, be satisfied that a senseless conflict in a large region was avoided. For Germany and Russia have lived next to each for centuries in friendship and in peace. Why should that not be possible so again in the future? 1 believe it will be possible, because both folks wish this. And any attempt by the British or French plutocracy to bring us into a new opposition will fail, simply fail due to the sober consideration of the intentions of these forces, the realization of this intentions.

So Germany is today initially free in its rear. The second task of the year 1939 was to free our back militarily as well. The hope of the English war experts that the fight against Poland would under no circumstances be decided in less than half a year to a year, was thwarted through the might of our Wehrmacht. The state to which England had given the guarantee has been wiped off the map in 18 days without fulfillment of this guarantee.

The first phase of the struggle is hence finished. And the second begins. Mr. Churchill is already eager for this second phase. He has expressed through his intermediaries - and he also does it personally - the hope that now the fight with bombs may also soon begin. And they already write that this fight will naturally not spare

women and children. - Well then! Has England ever spared women and children? The whole blockade war is simply just a war against women and against children. The war against the Boors was just a war against women and children. The concentration camp was invented back then; this idea was born in an English brain. We only had to look it up in the dictionary and then later copied it, only with a difference: England locked up women and children in these camps, and over 20,000 Boor women died in misery back then. Why should England hence fight differently today?

We have foreseen this and have prepared ourselves for it. Mr. Churchill may be convinced: What England has now done in the five months, we know that. What France has done, too. But apparently he does not know what Germany has done in the five months. The gentlemen are probably of the opinion that we have slept in the last five months. Since I stepped into the political arena, I have not yet slept through one single day of significant importance, let alone five months! I can give the German folk only one assurance: A tremendous amount has been performed in these five months. Compared to what has been done in these five months, everything that emerged in the seven years prior in Germany pales.

Our armament has now reached systematic take-off. The planning has proven itself. Our foresight now begins to bear fruit, and indeed to bear fruit in all areas, such great fruit that our gentlemen opponents slowly begin to copy. However, they are only very little copiers.

Naturally, English radio knows everything better, after all. If we go by English radio, then actually no sun would still be able to shine in England. The plane squadrons would have to darken the sky, the world would have to be a single weapons depot, equipped by England, working for England and hence supplying the British mass armies. Germany, conversely, stands before total collapse. U-boats - I have heard it just today - we still have three of them. That is very bad, namely not for us, rather for English propaganda. For if three are sunk, and that certainly happens today or tomorrow, after all, what will one then still sink? What will one then still destroy? The English then have nothing else to do than to sink in advance the U-boats that we will build in future. And then will then have to come up with a U-boat resurrection theory. According to which, after all, English ships will continue to be sunk, but we no longer have any U-boats, hence it can only be about U-boats that have already been destroyed once by the English.

I further read that deep despair and mourning have gripped me, and indeed, I had expected that we build two U-boats each day, and we now build only two each week. I can only say: It is not good, if one lets one's war reports, and especially one's radio addresses, by delivered by members of a folk that for thousands of years has no longer fought. For the last proven war by the Maccabees seems to have gradually lost its military- educational value.

If I view this foreign propaganda, then my confidence in our victory becomes immeasurable. For I have already once experienced this propaganda, after all. For almost 15 years, this propaganda was made against us. My old party comrades remember this propaganda. They are the same words, the same phrases and, if we look closer, even the same minds, the same dialect. I dealt with these people as a lonely unknown who drew a handful of people to himself. For 15 years, I dealt with this people. Today Germany is the greatest world power!

It is not so that age in itself makes wise. Blind people are also not made seeing through age. But whoever was already earlier struck by blindness, is blind now as well. But whoever is struck by blindness, the gods want to destroy him.

Today these forces are opposed by the German Wehrmacht, the first in the world! Above all, however, these forces are opposed by the German folk, the German folk in its insight and in its discipline, now trained by seven years National Socialist work in all areas. That this is no phantom, we can experience this today. This educational work has overcome classes and professions. It has eliminated parties, has purged worldviews and replaced them with a community. This community is today enthused by a single glowing confidence and filled with a fanatical will. This community, it will not make the mistake of the year 1918 this time.

If today Mr. Daladier doubts this community, or if he believes that in this community portions complain, or he quotes my homeland and pities it - oh, Monsieur Daladier, perhaps you will become acquainted with my Austrians. You will personally give them the enlightenment, after all. You will become just as acquainted with these divisions and regiments as with the other Germans. And you will then be cured of a delusion, namely of the delusion to believe that German tribes still confront you. Mr. Daladier, the German folk confronts you! And indeed the National Socialist German folk! This folk, for which National Socialism has struggled and which in laborious work obtained its present education and thus its present-day form, it is healed of all international impulses. And it will remain healed. The National Socialist party guarantees it. And your hope to separate folk and party or party and state or party and Wehrmacht or Wehrmacht, party and me, is childishly naive. That is the hope from which my opponents once already lived for 15 years.

I have as National Socialist become acquainted with nothing else than work, struggle, cares, efforts. I believe Providence has decreed nothing else for our generation. We do not want to hence act ungrateful toward this Providence, quite the opposite, we have here a warning. Once, 25 years ago, the German folk went to a war that had been forced upon it back then. It was not well equipped. France had fully utilized its folk strength quite differently than the Germany of back then. Russia was the mighty opponent back then. A complete other world could gradually be mobilized against this Germany. Then it went to war and performed miracles in heroic deeds.

And Providence held our folk. The year 1914, it freed the German homeland from the danger of enemy invasions. In the year 1915, the Reich's position was improved. 1916/1917, year after year, fight after fight, often everything already seemed to collapse, and as if by a miracle, the Reich was again and again saved. Germany provided amazing samples of its strength. It was visibly blessed by Providence.

Then the German folk became ungrateful. It began, instead of looking with confidence at its own future and thus its own strength, it began to trust in the promises of others. And finally, in its ingratitude, it rebelled against its own Reich, against its own leadership. And then Providence turned away from the German folk.

I did not back then view this catastrophe as something incomprehensible. I never complained that Providence, say, had committed an injustice against us. Quite the opposite, I have always taken the view that we only received from Providence the receipt for what, in the final analysis, we ourselves had deserved. The German nation was ungrateful, and accordingly it was denied the final reward back then.

That will no longer repeat itself in our history a second time. The National Socialist movement has already itself made this guarantee. In the 15 years of its struggle, there were by no means only radiant days, wonderful victories; there were often times of greatest concern, when the opponents already cheered over our destruction. But the movement proved itself, devout and strong hearts, in trust in the necessity of our struggle, again and again pulled themselves up and resisted the opponent anew and, in the end, defeated this opponent.

Today this is now the task of the German nation. 80 million now enter the lists. These 80 million today have a splendid internal organization, that best there can be. They have a strong faith, and they do not have the worst leadership, rather, as I am convinced, the best. - Leadership and folk today have one insight: that there is no agreement without a clear success for our Reich and that we do not want that perhaps in two or three or five years the fight for our rights ignites anew, but that here the right of 80 million stands to discussion, not of a party or of a movement. For what am I finally? I am nothing, German folk, but your spokesman. I am hence the representative of your right. It is not about my person here, but I do not also belong to those people who ever strike the flag. I have not learned that. The folk has given me its trust. I will prove myself worthy of this trust and, in the process, I do not want to turn my gaze at myself or my surroundings, rather I want to direct my gaze at the past and at the future. I want to pass in honor before the past and before the future, and the German folk should pass in honor with me. The present generation, it bears Germany's fate, Germany's future or Germany's decline. And our opponents, they shout it out today: Germany should perish! -

And Germany can give them only one reply: Germany will live, and Germany will hence triumph!

At the beginning of the 8th year of the National Socialist revolution, our hearts turn to our German folk, to its future. We want to serve it, for it, we want to fight, if necessary, fall, never capitulate! Germany - Sieg Heil!

On February 8th, the High Command reports for the previous course of the war the sinking of almost 1 ½ million gross registered tons of enemy cargo.

On February 10th, the Foreign Office announces a pre-liminary total figure for the folk comrades fallen victim to Polish atrocities of over 58,000.

On February 16th, the English ruthlessly violate Norwegian neutrality and attack the unarmed German steamer "Altmark" in Norwegian territorial waters.

On February 24th, the Führer speaks in Munich on the 20th anniversary of the proclamation of the party program.

Speech on February 24, 1940 in Munich

My German folk comrades!

20 years ago, I spoke for the first time in this hall before the broadest public. What led me here, was the hardest and most fanatical decision of my life. If today, after 20 years, I now see many of my oldest co-fighters of back then around me, if I now again stand in their circle, then this alone is already something amazing. I namely do not know how many politicians there are in the democratic lands, who after 20 years - as I see - could again step before their first followers. And when I entered this hall back then, I did not come, as is known to you, after all, from whatever pacifist club. I was still a soldier back then, hence still belonged to the German armed forces, and was a soldier body and soul. What had led me here was the protest of my soldierly feeling in a time that one can probably designate as the time of the deepest degradation of our German folk.

A collapse had come upon our folk back then, which was without example in history already because the so-called vanquished did not have a victor at all, after all. We had become the victims of a tremendous world swindle. But we were not totally alone in that, for the others, after all, were also swindled. One swindled the Italians back then, one swindled the Indians; one had promised them that, if they wanted to stand up for England, then they would get freedom afterward. One swindled the Arabs back then; one had assured them that they would then get a large Arab empire. But one also swindled the Jews back then, by the way, whom one right off promised the same region that one already promised to the Arabs. But one also swindled one's own folks. In all these so-called victor states, their own folks did not get what they expected back then. For now, after all, an age of justice was supposed to come. Just that within these nations as well, justice, social justice as well, has remained absent.

But one swindled our German folk the most, ft was an idiotic trust that our German folk put in the promises of these opponents, in the promises that even today ring so in all our ears, all the more so, after all, as we today now again hear them in part. A new world is supposed to be established, a world of equal rights, a world in which there should be only more justice as the sole life-determining power or force, a world in which one would hence no longer require any weapons, a world in which eternal peace would hence reign, in which a League of Nations was supposed to make people happy etc. etc...

The German folk put down its arms on the basis of these promises, which were summarized in 14 points. If one later said: Yes, you would not have needed to do that, after all, you had been defeated, after all - why did one promise us the 14 points back then and then solemnly further declare that one would also uphold them? One simply

did not defeat us. The German folk was swindled back then in its faith in the possibility of a new order in the world. The result of this swindle was then later Spa, and finally the result was Versailles. And then a new world order did emerge, namely the world order of the so- called victors and the world order of the vanquished, whereby the victors possessed all rights and the vanquished had no rights at all. Germany itself was defeated, hence without rights. It was without rights, however, because it was also without weapons, after all. And everything that came later was based on this defenselessness. We had no strong Reich power. It was replaced by a parliamentarian democracy. This parliamentarian-democratic Germany of back then was a paradise, that must be admitted - just not for the German folk. It was paradise for the Jews, for all crooks, for all speculators, for all swindlers, for all interest group representatives. Fine and well, for all conceivable elements in our folk, just not paradise for the German folk itself.

The other world, which had shaped this democracy, itself in no way also granted this democracy equal rights, rather, quite the opposite, this democracy was treated like it also deserved in the end, after all. A hell for decent people, for all decent, productive people and, above all, for all honest and upright people.

And the master of this state, back then it was that international finance clique, finance plutocracy, which today as well still governs in most folks and which, after all, today as well fights again in order to continue to preserve its regime.

The German national economy could only decay under such conditions. You still remember this time of creeping inflation, which gradually got worse and worse. One crisis led to the next back then. Each crisis was again the beginning of another one. One collapse caused additional collapses. So did that time begin, in which actually in our German land everybody fought against each other, all were in conflict against all, the time in which any authority had decayed, in which the folk as well, however, had for its part naturally lost trust in any authority, the time of the Weimar state of parties. 46 parties and groups fought for the representation of the interests of the German folk.

The result of this division in the interior was an increasing impotence toward the outside; the result of that again Germany's increasing disenfranchisement, and the result of that finally the increasing looting of our folk. What we had to pay in these years in so-called reparations went far beyond anything previously seen as possible at all. The era of a downright crazy capitalist insanity came. A nation is burdened with political debts that cannot be paid off. One finally still issues economic credits in order to be able to pay of the political debts, and along this path gradually transforms the political debt into an economic debt, of which one presumably presumed, that - this corresponds to the whole thinking of these forces back then - they would be viewed as more sacred than just political debt. The result of this again was the destruction of our financial foundations, the devaluation of our money and thus a new injury to the

whole of German economic life. Finally, nothing else was left than a slave folk, a slave folk in the service of international exploiters, who in part sat in Germany itself, for the large part had their offices outside of Germany.

Back then, there were very many who, in view of this total decay in all areas of the collapse, of all of faith and of trust etc., now thought the end had now come for the German nation. I was of a different view back then. What seemed to many the end, was in my eyes actually just the beginning. For what was broken in reality back then? Broken were untenable forms, forms, which, in the long run, would have no longer been able to survive. The bourgeois-capitalist world had collapsed. Its era had simply outlived itself. In some form, this collapse must come everywhere, and it will remain absent nowhere. But this collapse struck us back then during a foreign affairs horrible crisis and with just as terrible consequences. Only there is no doubt that this time back then, this era would not have been able to survive in the long run even so. But we apparently had a Reich. But this Reich was no longer the house for a folk, rather it was the playground for quarreling interest groups. Proletariat and bourgeoisie, class consciousness on the one side, class pride on the other side. In addition, a purely formal federal constitution, a changeling between monarchy and parliamentarian constitution, not capable of life. The Reich, furthermore, dissolved into federal states, of which each individual one had the possibility at any opportunity, through its vote or through its veto, to immediately again hamper the most necessary decisions. And, in the long run, a totally untenable state construction. It was self-evident that precisely our folk, with its dense settlement in Central Europe, was presented with very great tasks. The solution of these tasks demanded a regime's authority. It required a united public opinion. Only then did it become possible to solve these problems, if behind the decisions of the regime, of the government, stood the united will of the folk. That was no longer conceivable at all back then. Sooner or later, this condition had to break and make way for another one.

The bourgeois class state was present back then. Its antipode, the proletarian class state, announced itself. On the one side stood a bourgeois thought patriotic nationalism, on the other an international thought Marxist socialism. In the long run, both these worlds could not exist next to each other at all, after all. Either one of both had to triumph or both had to perish. For it was quite clear, after all, that both these worlds claimed the nation for itself and that they themselves no longer had any intention at all to make concessions for reconciliation to the other side. But it was furthermore clear that, over the course of decades, both worlds had already become old and internally fragile. One could no longer hope that the bourgeois world of back then would still be able to summon up the strength, say, to absorb the socialist masses and thereby reconstruct in the interior. But just as little could one still expect that the likewise already aged Marxist parties in Germany now would be able to summon up the strength, say, to win the bourgeoisie. And that was natural, after all, that, in our densely settled region, a revolution could not end with the annihilation of the other

part, rather only with the winning of the other part. That was already impossible for both groups back then. A change of this condition was unavoidable.

Hence if one pondered things back then, then one could only come to the realization that much was broken. Only they were more external formal things that broke. Broken, for example, is the monarchist state form. The German folk can live without it, it will live better without it. It was broken, the shredded state of back then. The German folk will live better without this division, which one classified in part as federalism and in part differently. It was broken back then, our bourgeois social order. The German folk could not live with it in the long run at all. But it was broken economically as well, a world of concepts, even if initially nothing yet took its place, rather only chaos. Only these concepts in themselves were not set for eternity. The decisive thing was one thing: In this time, when so many external formal institutions were broken, the German human being in himself was not broken, for he had just previously performed - I must already say it - his masterpiece in world history. A performance that no folk on earth had previously managed. In a four-year fight, this folk had withstood 26 states, and it was then defeated only through lie and deceit. If back then there had not been Germans in the interior who, trusting in foreign countries, had turned against their own regime, then even back then England and France - they would not have triumphed. Imagine if back then a certain Adolf Hitler instead of German musketeer had been German Reich Chancellor, do you imagine that these idols of the international democracies would have triumphed? They had it easy. They were opposed by only really quite inferior manifestations in Germany. These manifestations failed. They were overthrown. The German folk had nothing at all to do with that inwardly. In four years World War, the German folk proved its highest verification, produced the evidence of unprecedented strength.

And if back then I appeared as bearer of a new political idea in this state, then I appeared as the representative of this German folk living on unknown in millions of individual beings. And one thing was quite clear to me back then: If the old Reich was broken, if the old parties were broken, if the old social strata had found their end, then a new world simply had to replace them. And this new world could in Germany only be the world of the German folk itself. In place of the old class state had to come the German folk Reich, the German folk state. The Reich idea had to be taken from the hands of the previous representatives, and it had to be given into the loyal hands of the German folk. The folk itself had to be elevated to the guardian of the German Reich idea. Once the Reich was formed, expressly characterized in the proclamation according to the will of the princes. And now this new Reich had to emerge according to the will of the folk. If one appealed to this folk, then it had to become possible to mobilize immeasurable energies. For that the folk possessed the strength, the great war had proven that, after all. Hence a folk state had to come.

And it was proclaimed 20 years ago in the evening back then in this hall here. The program was nothing else than the program of the construction of the new German folk Reich. It was the theses of the national uprising. And the bearing thing, the bearing realization that laid in these theses, was the following: that both most elemental forces of the time: nationalism and socialism, had to be subjected to a new definition and that from this definition both theses had to be purged into a single one.

Both ideas had to be reshaped into a single idea and could then be the bearer of a new force, a force that could one day make the Reich great, free and powerful again. The folk now had to be and determine meaning and content of this new struggle. Not only the political struggle had to be waged for the folk, rather also economic work performed. All cultural political activity had to contribute to its preservation. Those are only a very few principles, which nonetheless in themselves become a tremendous revolution, a revolution of mighty ideas, mighty renewals, severest interventions, tremendous upheavals, but also, as I was convinced back then, gigantic successes.

Back then, the struggle against the internal enemies began. And you, my fellow fighters, you know I did not enter this struggle as a pacifist. I certainly did not want to wage a fight in the interior, if it was not necessary. But I have also trained you all, if necessary, to look every fight in the eye and to take it upon yourself without further ado.

I also took the view back then: It is best, if I regulate the necessities of life in our folk on the basis of agreements, on the basis of insight, this means, along the path of peaceful agreements. But if somebody now tries to hamper or hinder this peaceful development with force, then I will meet him with force. Those were the principles that dominated back then in our struggle and that did not leave us for 13 years; similar as in another land, in Italy, where, after all, the same world of ideas came to triumphant breakthrough with the same means.

This struggle lasted 13 years back then. The work that was done in these 13 years, what these years held in cares, efforts, in progress in detail and also in setbacks, you know that, my old party comrades, best of all, after all. You experienced that, after all, in these long years of struggle from the very small group, since we started with so very few people, after all, how difficult that was, how one slowly had to go ever farther, from one rally to the next, from the city to the countryside and from the province, from the village, again to the market spots and then again into the smaller cities, how we slowly expanded beyond our Bavaria and gradually began to fertilize the rest of the

Reich, and so how the movement gradually began to spread across all of Germany. A huge struggle for power; initially the struggle with the means that back then alone promised to lead to victory. Struggle for power in the state in itself. It was the revolutionary era of our movement. In the year 1923, a terrible setback. And then

came the legal period. There was fighting again with legal means, until finally, after 13 years, victory came. After 13 years, our internal opponents were lying on the ground. Everything that opposed us back then, our Jewry, our plutocrats, our cowardly opportunists who are everywhere a thing gradually shapes up well, our political and economic interest group representatives, all our parties, our classes, our professions, our provincial parliaments etc., the unions and the entrepreneur associations etc., all that was gradually forced to the ground. And when we came to power, we actually only needed to carry out the verdict already become historical.

The German folk has been gradually educated in the party, in the movement. In 1933, the time now began in which we now had to achieve everything that we had proclaimed, preached or promised in countless rallies. And if someone is fair here, then he cannot dispute here as well that since this time a miracle has taken place in Germany. What has been performed in these few years in reform work in all areas! What have we achieved in economic reconstruction activity! How have our cities begun to blossom! How has German cultural life ascended! This city here, after all, is proof, living proof for the new blossoming of German art. What a huge work have we performed in the field of the organizational structuring of our folk! What has happened since then in the purging of the individual professions, of the individual classes! What have we done in the education of our offspring, in the training of our youth! What have we done in the escalation of our folk's performance capacity! The millions of unemployed have disappeared. If some democratic idiot says we, we simply should not have rearmed, rather instead of rearming - we should have simply worked! We can only say to this idiot: We have done that! For before we came, there was no rearming, but Germany had seven million unemployed, and these unemployed had nothing to eat. And we then integrated these unemployed into the economic progress. And we did not want to rearm at all, but when we saw that these old war agitators, the old envious people of once again made preparations to attack us, then I rearmed Germany, and indeed armed like never before in its history.

A construction of gigantic proportions has been accomplished. If I imagine all these so-called international statesmen of the democracies, who today make fancy speeches in Europe, if I imagine these people and view their life work, then I can really say: I have always just had the misfortune to have had to fight against nothing but zeroes - inside and outside. The people dominate the largest portion of the whole earth and are not even in the position to eliminate unemployment in their own lands. And these old, totally calcified zeroes talk of the necessary new construction of Europe. Yes, that, my folk comrades, reminds me of the manner of speech of our own democrats, these old, toothless gentlemen who walked around among us and also preached of the necessary new construction of Germany. The new construction has set in - but without them! And the new construction of the world will also set in, and also without them!

In these seven years I have naturally had to wage a struggle for the freedom of my folk and hence against Versailles. For that is self-evident, after all, that, in the slave chains of Versailles, also any economic resurrection of the German folk would have been impossible.

But it is not so much about the struggle against the paragraph work of Versailles, rather, beyond that, it is about the struggle against a principle, against a mental state, which had found its documented expression in the Versailles dictate. This principle and this mental state that roots in the idea that two or three folks are chosen by the dear Lord to rule the whole world and that, if a folk does not submit to this rule, that one then has the right to say: this folk wants to rule the world. That means, this good Mr. Chamberlain stands up at the moment at which all of India protests against him, at the moment at which the Arabs protest, then he stands up and declares England fights against the attempt of German world rule by force. -

Perhaps one could impress the German before the year 1918 with these slogans - National Socialist Germany no longer! Quite the opposite, our struggle was directed from the first moment on against this principle. The principle that the world possesses two sorts of people, namely folks which one counts among the propertied, and folks which one counts among the have-nots..., this capitalist-plutocratic view, it will perish. Providence, the Lord, did not make the world for the English alone. The Lord has not decreed that a few small folks rule and subjugate three quarters of the whole earth and in the process are not even able to supply their own folk with the bare essentials, and other folks are destined to suffer starvation.

That has been possible solely as a result of the weakness of some folks. But this weakness, it is now being overcome and has been overcome. And these folks now likewise raise their claim. And I have raised this claim really modesty. The goal that I pursued was really a modest one:

First. The security of our own living space. And by living space, I understand everything in the world that was not cultivated, civilized and then also economically developed by the English, rather by us Germans. There are namely still some such regions! Leastwise in Central Europe, the fertilizing British influence has not yet been noticeable from the past to the present. This Central Europe has been built up by Germany. And in this German living space, this is where we now want to live. And here I do not and here we do not let our life be curtailed. And in this living space, we also do not let ourselves be threatened. And here we also do not let any political combinations be built up which are supposed to be directed against us. And

Second, we demanded and I demand the return of the German colonies, our German property, which these world plutocrats once robbed from us without any benefit for their own folks.

Those were very limited goals. I have done everything here in the process to undertake from the start a clear limitation of our claims against England and France, since these folks could not be affected at all. Nonetheless, our acquaintances from the World War increasingly put in an appearance. There came Mr. Churchill, Mr. Duff Cooper, Mister Eden, Mr. Chamberlain himself and finally, hovering above everything, the eternal spirit of the Jew Hore Belisha.

Now I am very different from these people. Mr. Churchill, after all, was already in the great war the known tax collector. He was back then one of the biggest war agitators. He belonged to those people - they never made any bones about it, after all - who already back had plunged the world into a war. And back then, I was a very little unknown soldier without any political influence. I only did my little duty, just like every other German also did that. We hence come from two very different worlds. There: the capitalist war agitators already before the war and here: the little German soldier who simply fulfilled his duty. After the war, these people pursued their businesses, and indeed armament businesses of the largest kind, and pocketed war profits. And I fought back then for my German folk. How I fought, you know that yourselves, my dear witnesses, best.

Now these people have already begun their war agitation again for some years. And they also make no bones about it, that is simply their goal again to wage a big war. They have the hope in the process that they will again find other folks who stand up for them, and the hope is in part also founded, because they have their Jewish allies everywhere. But in part, this hope has already fallen through. So they have again prepared this war in their manner. But now this time they are opposed by a German, a German front soldier, who for his part has likewise made preparations, and indeed thoroughly, such as only somebody can make who is filled with the consciousness of his duty toward his folk.

I have warned against these people, when it became necessary. But I have never left any doubt about one thing: that I was my unshakeable will and decision to make Germany free again. That they now hate me for it, that is my greatest pride. You know it, how often I have said that to you here, my old party comrades. If all the democracies in Germany, if all the Jews, if this whole pack that runs around there, if this rabble cursed me back then, how often have I then told you: that is my greatest honor. If they would praised me, then I would be the biggest scoundrel that exists at all.

And so it is today as well. If Mr. Churchill says that he hates me - I thank you, Mr. Churchill, for this compliment. If Mr. Chamberlain declares that he does not trust me - 1 thank you, that you believe that you do not believe that I could ever be a traitor, Mr. Chamberlain.

If Mr. Duff Cooper or Mister Eden declare that, in their eyes, I am a horrible monster, 1 am happy that they do not declare me among their friends. Indeed, I have just one single ambition, namely: to win and to keep the love and affection of my own folk comrades. The hatred of my enemies does not move me at all. It did not move me in the 13 years when I struggled for power in Germany, and it certainly does not move me now. And just as, back then, I fought in the interior 13 years for my folk's freedom against the internal oppressors, exploiters etc., so do I also fight today, if it is necessary, toward the exterior.

They do not know us! The best proof how little they know us, I believe, is to be seen in the British hope to perhaps nonetheless achieve a new year 1918. The idiotic leaflets also correspond to this, after all, which one initially dropped on Germany for lack of other munitions. One probably believed that one would be able to repeat today the theater or the maneuver of 1917 or 1918 in the Germany of back then. The gentlemen have no idea of present-day Germany!

The situation here has changed substantially in many areas. Initially already in terms of foreign affairs, it has changed compared to the year 1914. Germany is today a friend with Italy. It is not just the friendship of both regimes and, I may probably also say, the friendship of both leading men, rather it is also the realization that both lands in their future need each other and are dependent upon each other. Only also toward Russia has the relationship changed. The hope, just like in the year 1914, to again be able to produce a war between Russia and Germany, between both folks, has failed miserably. I understand that in London one is now outraged over this vileness, that I suddenly thwarted precisely this chess move. I understand that. But I believe, in this case, the Russian regime and the German regime have really only done something very beneficial for both folks. For we are both really too good for it that we merely let ourselves bleed to death so that the London stock exchange and the whole of Jewry in London rub their hands.

A mighty state has thereby been removed from the fight with Germany. And you know, my party comrades, that I do not do things halfway. If I once take a path, then I walk this path to the end. That hence means the hope that perhaps tomorrow or the day after tomorrow things could perhaps nonetheless be different, this hope is a futile one.

But Japan as well, which in the year 1914 likewise opposed Germany, this time stands not on the side of our opponents, rather is our close friend.

Those are three mighty states, which back then were our enemies and today stand aside as the best-meaning neutrals. Still, a very gigantic foreign political change in the situation. Militarily as well, the situation has changed. I have carried out an armament. And, like I do everything in my life, completely and not halfway, so have I also done

this arming completely. For years, I did not talk about it, for reasons which you can understand. I did not want to unnecessarily stir up the others, for I also wanted no conflict at all, after all. Once an Englishman told me we should reciprocally inform each other about our budget, the armaments outlays. I asked him why. Well, he said, so that the world would be somewhat more calmed. I told him: No, it is better if we do not do that, perhaps it would then really get unsettled. At any rate, for years I remained silent. But you all know, after all, I have worked. We have built up for ourselves a Wehrmacht that stands there differently than that of the year 1914. Back then, poorly equipped, back then, in part downright miserable supplied, this time we have spared no sacrifice in order to give our Wehrmacht the most modern equipment in the world. That this is not a slogan, has initially been proven by the campaign in Poland. I believe it went down somewhat faster than the strategists in London and Paris expected it. And the future as well will continue to confirm this.

But what, beyond the material, concerns the spirit of this Wehrmacht, there as well, one should not be concerned. The spirit of this Wehrmacht is as always the spirit of the highest leadership. The soldiers always have the spirit that the highest leaders possess and that the highest leader has. For the musketeer down below is always valiant anyway. If the highest leadership is hence also valiant, then the spirit below will already be in order. And that the highest leadership today should not be confused with the leadership of the year 1914, God governs that.

Only also economically, we have prepared ourselves differently. For years, I have had economically secured the foundations of our autarchy - much to the dismay of our opponents. Actually, they should have had to be pleased, after all. They should have had to tell themselves: Thank God, the Germans simply create their life in their own life circle. - No, it dismayed them, for they knew quite well that this autarchy takes from them the possibility to attack Germany at an opportunity and then through blockade strangle it. However, this blockade is rather full of holes anyway, noted on the side. But we have made ourselves blockade proof, quite differently than in the year 1914. One thing differentiates the situation of now from the situation of back then: Back then, our defense against the blockade was the same as nil, our own preparation for autarchy likewise nil. Today our defense against blockade is a totally different one already from the first day on than back then, and the defense is likewise organized on our side, this means, the autarchic foundation of our economy is secured to the highest degree. One thing, we all know this: Neither militarily nor economically can Germany be beaten down.

But now comes the decisive thing, and that is the leadership. And if I speak here of leadership, then I mean not just myself personally, rather I mean by leadership everything that in the course of these 20 years, since back when I was here and for the first time spoke before you, that has come to the leadership. I have often told you: I am nothing else than a magnet that continuously passes over the German nation and

draws the steel out of this folk. And I have often declared that the time will come everything that exists in Germany in men will stand in my camp. And what does not stand in my camp, is then not worth anything anyway. I have characterized this as the process of the formation of the historical minority. And it has come exactly so. Over the course of 13 years, a sum of personal energies has come together in the framework of the National Socialist party, beginning with the smallest block and cell leader up to the town leader, to the county leader, to the provincial leader, to the Reich regents, to the Reich leaders; in all areas, a huge selection has taken place. Countless hundreds of thousands of energies have been mobilized and stand today at the important posts. If perhaps you today no longer grasp this so in detail, then I would only ask you for one thing: Look at any national event, let us say from the year 1903, 1905, 1908 or 1910 or 1912, and look at a similar event today; let us say, back then, the unveiling of a monument, a national monument to a national hero, let us say Bismarck or, let us say, a ship launching. The first impression: A field of top-hats, only top-hats, no folk at all, only top-hats. And today: only folk and no top-hats. That is the difference!

If I speak to you today, then, my dear old party comrades, you will say: Our old revolutionary leader! - pardon me - your chief of state! And now do not forget how different this would look, if the chief of state speaks. How they would of looked, for all I care, 20 years ago or still 15 years ago. Look at the picture today. Today we really have the German folk. And in its leadership and at its top stand leaders everywhere from the German folk, without regard for their origin. It is really a huge sum of manly energy and determination, which today leads the German nation. That is worth something, if a nation is so thoroughly organized that at every position somewhere one stands again who has grown from the folk itself and hence must work at this post due to energy, not due to his name or his birth.

And now, however, comes the final thing: We also have a different folk. This folk has now pulled itself up. It has found itself. It was regained its self-confidence, and indeed to a degree like never before. I know very precisely that nothing is impossible in this world. It knows its history. What are all our decisions compared to the decisions of the great heroes of our past! We know, however, that we are not weaker than they, rather, quite the opposite, that we can measure ourselves against them with success. The German folk has gone through a school such as perhaps, aside from Italy, no other folk in Western Europe possesses, a school of political education, of enlightenment. This folk is thoroughly organized. There exists today among these 23 million employed nobody who is not somewhere in an organization, who is not somehow included.

If today such an English top-hot wearer comes here and wants to make propaganda - propaganda in our folk? Totally different people have already tried that, and they got nowhere at all against us. All these expressions, which Mr. Chamberlain wastes, he can perhaps use for his own folk. Among us, it is totally ineffective. We

know the gentlemen. We know, above all, their advisors. We know them very precisely, they were in part, after all, here among us eight years ago. We hear that, we hear that from the dialect of their pronunciation. They speak, namely, just as funny German as they speak funny English. We once finished these people in our midst, when they had power in Germany. Today they have no power here, other than just the power of their voice. And this voice, it sounds very bad in Germany. The German folk has an aversion toward these voices, toward the whole jargon. It does not want to hear these voices at all. And if it first sees the bearers of these voices, then the German folk has already had enough. What these people then say, is in itself totally indifferent. No person in the folk German believes one word of it anymore. Every German knows that they lie like they print and print like they lie.

No, the German folk has totally changed today. There are no longer any Bethmann Hollwegs in the leadership. But there are also no longer any Spartacus gangs in the folk. Both have ceased. A new folk has come, and this folk will carry out the fight that one has now forced upon it. And I am determined to carry out this fight. There will perhaps be many a person who now says: If one still had a few more years time. - That is it simply. It is better, if the fight is nonetheless unavoidable, the gentlemen have finally now begun it. And furthermore, in the long run, it is intolerable that a folk can go tell another one, which is 80 million people strong: We do not want you to do this or that, and we do not want... If we decide to, then we will stop your imports, then we will made a blockade, and then you cannot get anything anymore, then you must starve.

We will not tolerate that, and this regime will now break! This organized terror by a vile world plutocrat clique, we will eliminate it - one way or another! We have routed these inter-national finance hyenas in Germany, we will not let the law of life be dictated to us from the outside. The German folk has the same right to life as any other folk. And we simply will not tolerate it that here a few people can come and at every opportunity simply dictate to another folk the measure of life. We are determined to therefore now wage this fight for so long until this terror has been broken. And just as we have broken it internally, we will also break it externally.

That I have no respect for these people, this lies based on a few facts: First. Insofar as they were previously among us, you will understand that I do not need to have any respect at all for them. Why do I need to have respect for people who previously had power in Germany, who opposed me as totally unknown, nameless and powerless person, and who, after 13 years, had to clear the field - why should I have respect for these people? And externally it is no different. I myself faced the people as soldier for four years. You will not convince me that they are better than we. Yes, back then they opposed us with a gigantic superior force. Today they no longer have this superior force. In terms of weapons as well, they no longer have this superiority. And that I have furthermore now used the time, that, my old party comrades, you will readily

believe me. For however one may reproach me, one thing nobody can accuse me of: that I have ever in my life been lazy or perhaps for half a year did nothing, rather folded my hands on my lap. I have worked in the last five months as much as a human being can work. And this was also relatively easy, for one merely needs to let run what we had prepared to run, and that runs now! And indeed thoroughly!

The German folk stands today in a better condition militarily than it ever stood in its history. Trust in the leadership, however, we can all possess that. The military leadership as well stands at the height of the time and at the height of the tasks. The others must first prove everything that we have already proven.

Furthermore, I now believe one thing: There is a Lord. The Lord creates the folks. He fundamentally gives all folks the same right. We Germans acted very badly in history 20, 22, 23 years ago. A revolution came, and we were then defeated. And then began our folk's resurrection in immense work. And in this whole time, Providence has now again blessed our work. The braver we were, the more so did the blessing of Providence come as well. And in the last six years as well, Providence has always accompanied us. For believe me, one person calls it luck, the other something else, but without this ultimate agreement, one cannot perform great works, after all. And just a few months ago, after all, I again personally as well felt in the deepest sense the governing of a Providence, which accompanies people and puts tasks to them. We deserve these tasks. What we want, is not the suppression of other folks. It is our freedom, our security, the security of our living space, ft is the security of the life of our folk itself. We fought for this. Providence has previously blessed this struggle, blessed it a thousand-fold. Would it have done that, if it were its intention to now suddenly let this struggle turn to our disfavor? I believe here in a higher and in an eternal justice. It is imparted to whomever proves himself worthy of this justice. That was my faith, with which I first appeared here 20 years ago, back then a totally nameless person, as an unknown. I believed then that it cannot be that my folk is destined to perish, that cannot be. It will perish, if no men are found who save this folk. It must perish, if there is nobody who has faith in this folk. Then it must perish. But if somebody once affirms this folk with devout heart and works for it and risks everything for this folk, then it cannot be that Providence lets this folk perish.

That is how I began this struggle back then as a totally un-known, little German soldier, and at the end of this struggle then stood January 30,1933. The little soldier became the first folk chancellor of the German Reich. And a year later, then I became the leader of the whole nation.

And now I have again struggled for seven years with the same faith: it cannot be that my folk is destined to this fate, to be the slave to others, to be the slave to these English or these French. It cannot be! And today as well I have this faith, and with even more right than earlier, for more than the miraculous has Providence done for us since

then. And I can only ask you all: Accept this faith very fully as old National Socialists. It cannot be different, we must triumph and hence we also will triumph! And if the enemy around us threatens so and pushes so, it is no worse than it once was. Our ancestors also had to endure that so often. Then we must really wrestle our way to a great affirmation of a mighty German: "And if the world were full of devils, we will nonetheless succeed!"

On March 2nd, the High Command announces the proud report over the result of the first half year of war.

On March 10th, Heroes Remembrance Day, the Führer speaks:

Speech on March 10, 1940 in Berlin - Heroes Remembrance Day

In a serious time, the German folk today celebrates its Heroes Remembrance Day. With greater right than in the last 20 years, it can step before the mental eyes of those who, as brave soldiers of our folk, once sacrificed their life for the future of the nation, the greatness and entirety of the Reich. What for years were only the pale slogans of a posterity become unworthy, is today the proud gratitude of an equal present. After the unprecedented triumphant advance in the east, the soldiers of the divisions of the field army, the crews of our ships, the warriors of our Luftwaffe are now ready to protect the Reich from the old enemies of the west. In the same consciousness of duty and in the same obedience, loyal to command like the soldiers of the great war. Behind them, however, now stands a homeland, cleansed of the elements of decay as well as of the forces of fragmentation. For the first time in our history, the whole German folk steps before the countenance of the Almighty in order to ask him to bless its struggle for existence.

This struggle of the soldier is difficult. If life for its assertion, insofar as we survey nature and have gained insight into its governing, again and again demands sacrifice in order to bear new life, and inflicts pain in order to heal wounds, then the soldier is the first representative of life in this struggle, for he represents in every age that best selection of the folks who through his risk of life and - if necessary - through his sacrifice of life, enables and secures the life of the rest of the fellow world and thus of the surrounding world. He thus steps, in the hours in which Providence weights the worth of folks, before the divine court of the Almighty.

In it, the nations are weighed and either found too light and hence erased from the book of life and of history or seen as worthy enough in order to carry new life. But only who himself had opportunity to face the worst distress in the struggle, who himself saw death sweep around him in years of effort, knows how to measure the greatness of the action of the soldier, to appreciate the whole weight of his sacrifice. From the instinct for self-preservation, mankind has hence found valid yardsticks for the valuation of those who were ready to sacrifice themselves in order to preserve the life of the community. Against the repulsive egoist, it sets the idealist, and if it despises the one as coward, then it thanks all the more so from unconscious realization the sacrifice made by the other. It glorifies him to hero and thereby elevates him from the average of indifferent manifestations.

No folk, however, has more right to celebrate its heroes than the German!

In the most difficult geopolitical situation, our folk's existence could again and again be secured only through the heroic action of its men. If we have been leading a

historical life, existence for 2,000 years, then only because, in these 2,000 years, men have again and again been ready to risk their own life for this totality and, if necessary, to sacrifice it. Each of these heroes, however, did not give his life in the opinion to thereby be able to free later generations from the same duty. All the achievements of the past, they would have been in vain, if, in a single generation of the future, the strength for the same sacrifice were lacking. For a folk's life resembles a chain without end only so long as a link does not break in one generation and then the course of development ceases. Hence nobody has the right to celebrate heroes, who is not himself capable of a similar orientation. Nobody should speak of tradition, who does not, through his own life and his life action, increase this tradition. This principle is valid for the folk just as much as for its statesmen. For the soldiers no less so than the generals. From the consecrated halls of this building, in which we find ourselves here, there speak to us the witnesses of an incomparable, glorious past. It was won and sealed with the blood of countless German heroes. We would possess no right to enter this hall than with the sacred decision in the heart to be no less valiant than the bearers of these weapons, field decorations and uniforms were before us. The life risk of the individual musketeer in the Seven Years War was no less difficult than the one was that, already a thousand years earlier, made the German warriors fight for the protection of the German land from the hordes of the east. But it was also no easier than the one de-manded from us today. The strength of decisions, the daring, bold courage of the great statesmen and army commanders of the past, were no lesser achievements than are expected from us today. But then as well, the great statesmen and army commanders were loved by the gods only because they often dared and demanded the seemingly impossible. Hardly one of the great battles in our folk's history and, above all, Prussia's history, carried its finish already visibly predetermined at the beginning. Many a deed, which, seen numerically and materially, would have apparently had to lead to victory, became a defeat as a result of the lacking spirit of the bearer, and many another, which according to all human calculations could only lead to annihilation, found its entry into history as most glorious victory. The secret of the miracle of life will never reveal and disclose itself to the pale theoretician. He always misses as the mightiest formative force of existence what he himself lacks the most, the strength of will in the daring of the comprehension and the persistent execution of the decisions.

So we assemble today for the remembrance day of our heroes with the feeling of a new inner dignity. Not with lowered head, rather proudly elevated gaze, do we greet them in the consciousness of the equality of birth, of equal achievements and, if necessary, in the willingness to bear the same sacrifices. We also fight for what they once fought for. What was high enough for them, if necessary, to die for it, should find us ready at any hour for the same deed. The faith, however, that inspired them, has only further strengthened itself in all of us. Whatever the life and fate of the individual may be, above all stands the existence and the future of the totality. And here, something else elevates up above past times: Unlocked for all of us is that for which,

in earlier periods, so many had to fight still unconsciously: the German folk! To be allowed to live in its community is our highest earthy happiness. To belong to it, is our pride, to defend it in unconditional loyalty in times of distress, our fanatical defiance. The greater the dangers around us may be, all the more precious seems to us the treasure of this our community. All the more important, however, is also the realization that the strongest force of German life assertion lies in its unlocking and promotion. If the other world of the plutocratic democracies declares the wildest fight precisely against National Socialist Germany and pronounces its destruction as supreme world goal, then this thereby only confirms to us what we know anyway: that namely the idea of the National Socialist folk community makes the German folk especially dangerous, because invincible, in the eyes of our opponents as well. Beyond classes and professions, occupations, denominations and all other confusions of life, there arises the social unity of Ger-man human beings without regard for profession and origin, based on blood, joined together through a thousand-year life. The world wishes our dissolution. Our reply can only be the renewed oath to the greatest community of all times. Its goal is German fragmentation. Our affirmation of faith: German unity. Its hope is the success of capitalist interests. Our will is the victory of the National Socialist folk community!

Five years ago today, universal compulsory military service was proclaimed!

In an almost five year long laborious work, National Socialism has redeemed the German folk from the condition of tragic desperation, in a unique historical work again pulled together the nation's conscience and banished the pitiful spirits of defeatist capitulation, created the general political preconditions for rearmament. Nonetheless, for years I was ready to extend my hand to the world for a real agreement. It rejected the idea of a reconciliation of folks on the basis of equal rights.

As National Socialist and as soldier, I have in my life always held high the principle to secure my folk's right either in peace or - if necessary - to force it in combat.

As the leader of the nation, as chancellor of the Reich and as Supreme Commander of the German Wehrmacht, I hence live with still only one single task: Day and night, to think of victory and to struggle, to work and to fight for it, and, if necessary, to not spare my life as well in the realization that this time the German future will be decided for centuries.

As former soldier of the great war, however, I have only one single humble request to direct to Providence: may it let all us of share the mercy to conclude in honor the last chapter of the great struggle of folks for our German folk. Then the spirits of our fallen comrades will rise from their graves and thank all those who, through their courage and their loyalty, now make good what a single shameful hour once sinned against them and against our folk.

Our affirmation on this day should hence be the solemn oath:

The war forced upon the Greater German Reich by France's and England's capitalist rulers must become the most glorious victory in German history!

Chronology

January 1, 1934 – March 10, 1940

January 26, 1934
German-Polish treaty concluded on Adolf Hitler's and Pilsudski's initiative.

September 13, 1934
Announcement of the execution of the minority system by Poland.

June 18, 1935
German-English fleet treaty.

November 5, 1937
Declaration of agreement by the German and Polish government over the protection of minorities by both sides.

March 12, 1938
Austria's unification with the German Reich.

September 29, 1938
Munich Agreement about the integration of the Sudeten-German regions into the German Reich.

October 24, 1938
First conference of Reich Foreign Minister von Ribbentrop with the Polish Ambassador Lipski in Berchtesgaden about the German proposal for an amiable solution to the Danzig and corridor question.

January 5, 1939
Conference of the Führer with the Polish Foreign Minister Beck in Berchtesgaden about the German proposal for a peaceful solution of the Danzig and corridor question.

March 15, 1939
Creation of the autonomous Reich protectorate Bohemia and Moravia inside the German Reich.

March 22, 1939
Return of the Memel region to the German Reich.

March 23, 1939
Partial mobilization in Poland.

March 31, 1939
English guarantee declaration for Poland.

April 6, 1939
Publication of England's and Poland's reciprocal guarantee agreements.

April 28, 1939
The Führer's Reichstag speech, nullification of the German-Polish declarations of January 26, 1934 and of the German-English fleet treaty.

May 7, 1939
Conclusion of the German-Italian military alliance.

May 5, 1939
Turkish-British guarantee treaty.

May 14, 1939
Polish attack against the German population in Tomaschow.

May 21, 1939
Shooting to death of a Danzig state citizen on Danzig soil from Polish diplomat's vehicle.

May 22, 1939
Signing of the German-Italian military alliance in Berlin.

June 23, 1939
Turkish-French aid pact.

August 11-13, 1939
Italian Foreign Minister Count Ciano in Salzberg/Berchtesgaden.

August 11, 1939
Arrival of an English-French military mission in Moscow.

August 14, 1939
Mass arrests of Germans in Upper Silesia.

August 19, 1939
Conclusion of a German - Soviet Russian trade and credit treaty.

August 23, 1939
Signing of the German-Russian Consultation and Non-Aggression Pact.

August 23, 19439
First case of the bombardment of a German commercial aircraft by Polish anti-aircraft guns.

August 25, 1939
German commercial aircraft with State Secretary Stuckardt as passenger fired upon by Poles.

August 25, 1939
Departure of the English-French military mission from Moscow without results.

August 25, 1939
Personal messenger from the Führer to Daladier.

August 26, 1939
Daladier's personal letter to the Führer.

August 27, 1939
A patrol of the German customs station Flammber i. O. is fired upon by a Polish border patrol.

August 27, 1939
The Führer's reply to French Minister-President Daladier.

August 28, 1939
Polish troops cross the Ratibor and Reich border in Rosenberg county; firefight with German soldiers.

August 28, 1939
British proposal to mediate direct German-Polish negotiations.

August 29, 1939
Polish firing upon the German customs house Sonnenwalde (Pomerania) and upon a German border watch company at Beuthen.

August 30, 1939
General mobilization in Poland instead of dispatch of an emissary.

August 30, 1939

Formation of the Ministerial Council for Reich Defense under General Field Marshall Göring.

August 30 and 31, 1939
Various Polish attacks against German Reich territory.

September 1, 1939
In the first morning hours, Polish artillery bombards the open German city Beuthen.

September 1,1939
The Führer's Reichstag speech.

September 1, 1939
The Führer's Appeal to the Wehrmacht.

September 1, 1939
Danzig's reunification with the Reich.

September 1, 1939
Beginning of the German counter-thrust.

September 2, 1939
Mussolini's mediation proposal and its rejection by England and Poland.

September 3, 1939
England's ultimatum to Germany and its rejection; England and France declare war against the German Reich.

September 3,1939
The Führer's appeal to the German folk, the NSDAP and to the West and East Army.

September 10-12, 1939
Battle of annihilation at Radom, 60,000 Poles captured.

September 17, 1939
Soviet-Russian troops cross the Polish border.

September 18, 1939
English aircraft carrier "Courageous" sunk.

September 10-19, 1939
Battle in the Vistula Bend, over 170,000 prisoners.

September 19,1939
The Führer's speech in liberated Danzig.

September 22, 1939
Setting of the German - Soviet Russian demarcation line.

September 27, 1939
Warsaw capitulates.

September 28, 1939
German - Soviet Russian border and friendship treaty and German-Russian step for peace.

October 3, 1939
Chamberlain's declaration before the House of Commons means rejection of the German-Russian peace initiative.

October 5, 1939
The Führer in Warsaw.

October 5,1939
The Führer's order of the day to the Wehrmacht.

October 6,1939
The Führer's settling of accounts before the Reichstag.

October 8, 1939
New Order in the East, creation of the Reich Provinces Danzig - West Prussia and Posen.

October 10, 1939
The Führer's appeal for the First Winter Aid Work.

October 12, 1939
Chamberlain once again rejects the Führer's hand of peace in his House of Commons declaration

October 14, 1939
Lieutenant Prien's U-boat sinks the British battleship "Royal Oak: and torpedoes the battleship "Repulse".

October 15, 1939
German-Estonian resettlement treaty.

October 16, 1939
Successful German air attack against English ships in the Firth of Forth.

October 16, 1939
French troops evacuate the German region in the foreground of the West Wall.

October 17, 1939
First German air attack against the British fleet at Scapa Flow.

October 20, 1939
Turks-French-British aid treaty.

October 30, 1939
German-Latvian resettlement treaty.

November 8, 1939
The Führer's speech in the Munich Bürgerbräukeller.

November 8, 1939
Failed bomb assassination attempt against the Führer.

November 9, 1939
Arrest of the chief of the British Secret Service for Western Europe on the German-Dutch border.

November 12, 1939
Rejection of the Dutch-Belgian mediation proposal by England and France.

November 16, 1939
German - Soviet Russian resettlement treaty.

November 23, 1939
Torpedoing of the British cruiser "Belfast" in the Firth of Forth.

November 27, 1939
British enactment of the blockade of German exports in violation of international law.

November 27, 1939
British auxiliary cruiser "Ravalpidy" sunk in the sea battle at Iceland.

November 28, 1939
Lieutenant Priem sinks British cruiser of the London class.

November 30, 1939
Outbreak of the Finnish-Russian conflict.

December 4, 1939
British blockade in violation of international law begins.

December 8, 1939
Consecration of the Adolf Hitler Canal and first dig with a spade of the Oder-Danube canal.

December 12, 1939
Lloyd steamer "Bremen" returns to the homeland after breakthrough through the British blockade.

December 13, 1939
Successful sea battle of the armored ship "Admiral Graf Spree" at the mouth of the La Plata.

December 14, 1939
Ten British bombers shot down over the Northern Frisian islands.

December 17, 1939
Armored ship "Admiral Graf Spree" sunk on the Führer's orders.

December 18, 1939
36 British warplanes shot down in the Day of Germany.

December 17-19, 1939
23 British sentry ships sunk.

December 21, 1939
German-Italian resettlement treaty for the Germans in Oberetsch.

December 23-25, 1939
The Führer on the western front.

December 29, 1939
British cruiiser of the Queen Elizabeth class torpedoed.

January 1, 1940
The Führer's appeal to the party and Wehrmacht at New Year.

January 5, 1940

Scene change in the British cabinet, Hore Belisha's and MacMillan's resignation.

January 10, 1940
Over 185,00 ethnic Germans from Oberetsch opt for the German Reich.

January 16, 1940
Destruction of two British U-boats in the Bay of Germany.

January 30,1940
The Führer's Sportpalast speech.

February 7, 1940
Alsace-Lorraine autonomy leader Dr. Roos shot dead in Nancy, two Irish republicans executed in Birmingham.

February 10, 1940
The Foreign Office releases the previous total figure for the number of dead in the German ethnic group in Posen of 58,000.

November 2, 1940
German - Soviet-Russian economic treaty.

February 2, 1940
Assignment to Dr. Ley for the working out of comprehension elderly care for the German folk.

February 16, 1940
Cowardly attack by British naval forces against the German steamer "Altmark" in Norwegian sovereign waters.

November 17, 1940
Lame protest declaration by the Norwegian government against the British violation of neutrality.

February 24,1940
Führer speech in the Munich Hofbräuhaus.

March 2, 1940
Proud survey by the High Command of the Wehrmacht of the events of the first half year of war.

March 3, 1940
Opening of the Leipzig war trade show.

March 10,1940
The Führer's heroes remembrance speech.